

ILLUSTRATED

WEEKLY TIMES.



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FOR THE WEEK ENDING SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 1843.

[SIXPENCE.]

JUDGE GURNEY AND CHARTIST JONES.

We do not wonder at the misconduct imputed to the County Magistrate, when we bear in mind that Lord ABINGER has been arraigned, at the bar of public opinion, for scolding and abusing the Chartists, in his charge to the Grand Jury at Liverpool. This accusation has been apologised for by Ministers, but they could not deny it. Unhappily, the newspapers of this week supply another illustration of the peculiar views which some people hold, as to the best way of administering justice. To avoid even the suspicion of unfairness, we shall state the case from the Assize reports of the *Times* and *Post*.

At Leicester assizes, on last Friday, a young man named WILLIAM JONES, indicted for having, at a public meeting in Leicester, made use of language intended and calculated to excite the minds of the public against the police and the army, was tried before Sir JOHN GURNEY—that mild and merciful judge. Two experienced counsel conducted the prosecution; the prisoner had no one to assist him in his defence. In such case it is usually presumed (by what is fancifully called “a fiction of law”) that the learned Judge is counsel for the undefended prisoner, giving him the advantage of his legal knowledge and experience. In this case, it would appear as if the Judge were acting as counsel against the accused.

JONES, in the month of August, made a Chartist speech, or sermon, to a public meeting at Leicester. One of the witnesses deposed that he gave an outline of the history of the yeomanry cavalry, and militia; and the intent of his discourse, in the opinion of the witness, was to show the property of the rich man was protected by law, while that of the poor, which was their labour, was not. JONES was further guilty of the enormity of calling the police “blue vampires.” It was added that JONES asked, what were the necessary qualifications for a policeman, and said he must be a man of no character, gifted with lying, deceit, and chicanery, bloodthirsty and deceitful, ready to do or swear anything his masters wished him; that he called them the unboiled blue, and when the day of boiling came, woe to the unboiled; and that he spoke of the army, and said they were 140,000 hired assassins. Pointing to a factory, he said, “If a poor man was to go into that factory and steal a quantity of oily dirty stuff, not worth sixpence, he would be treated as a felon, and committed and sent to prison; but nothing was done to the master-manufacturer, who robbed the poor man of five or six shillings every week from his wages.” A hymn was sung, commencing—

“Men of England, ye are slaves,
Beaten by policemen’s staves;
If their force ye dare repel,
Yours will be the felon’s cell.”

All this—sermon and hymn—appears sufficiently absurd. Fortunately, it led to no mischief. It was sworn by the chief witness for the prosecution, that JONES did not call upon the people to make an attack upon any man or set of men; that there was no tumult at the meeting, the only noise being the response given to the prisoner’s sentiments; and that there were mobs of people before the prisoner came to Leicester, but none after. So far, then, no harm was done.

JONES, on the examination of a witness, put the question, “Did you think you were morally justified—” when Judge GURNEY interrupted, and declared “We’ll have no such nonsense as that about ‘morally justified’ here!” Immediately after (we quote the *Times*’ report), when the witness said that there was no injury done to the policeman before Jones came, nor since, the Judge said:—

“Why they took you up, you see; that’s the way they quieted you. If you turn a dog down the street, and cry out ‘Mad dog,’ there’s no need to tell the people to knock him on the head. There’s no occasion for it, it is not necessary; they will do it without.”

“The Defendant.—I’m quite aware of that, my lord; I and those like me have painfully learned that by experience.”

We leave our readers to determine which was the more

dignified in this colloquy—the Judge or the Prisoner. The refinement of Sir JOHN GURNEY’s episodal remark is exquisite. Its *manliness*, as addressed to a man upon his trial, is beyond all comment.

The prisoner, who did not call any witnesses, made a speech complaining of the forced construction put upon his words, by their being separated from the context. He added that “If uniformly to advocate the great principles of freedom and of truth—if honestly to express his hatred of tyranny in whatever form it might present itself—if to do so were an offence indictable at common law, then, in that case, the Jury would pronounce him guilty. If the sacred name of liberty had become sedition in the present state of society, then would he rather pass the remainder of his days in a solitary cell, where, at least, he could commune with the happy spirit of freedom, and dream of her future triumph, when virtue would not be talked of merely, but practised, and happiness diffused all over the world.” He then said, it was true he had denounced the Government as tyrannical.

“Mr. Baron Gurney.—Then you have done a very wrong thing—exceedingly wrong, Sir?”

After this, the prisoner proceeded to show that the very magistrate who had committed him had himself, not long before, uttered language more inflammatory than any he had used, and that the very barrister (Mr. MELLOR) who was prosecuting him had done the same—but the Judge “summarily stopped him,” (as the report says) and persisted in not allowing him to show that others had done and said, with impunity, what he was prosecuted for. At length, the prisoner said:—

“My lord, may I beg that I may not be further interrupted, but permitted to conduct my defence, according to the best of my ability, in the mode in which I have designed it?”

“The Judge.—That will depend upon whether you confine yourself within proper limits, and to the subject of the charge which you have to answer.”

The defendant proceeded—“He felt it useless to address them any further.”

The defendant was convicted. The question arises whether a Judge was quite justified in browbeating a prisoner? In the case of the *True Sun*, indicted a few years ago, for recommending the non-payment of taxes, Mr. BELL, who defended himself, was allowed to refer to the known facts that Sir JOHN CAMPBELL and others had declared in Parliament, that they would not pay the taxes unless such and such political concessions were made; and, as a later instance, Mr. Justice ENSKINE, within this very week (during the Chartist trials at Stafford) permitted COOPER, who defended himself, to refer (however irregularly) to points and persons which really had not much to do with the actual matter *sub judice*, and did so permit him, we presume, because to a prisoner who defends himself much greater latitude is given than to a lawyer, who knows what may be legally stated and what may not.

We recommend the Ministry to consider the propriety of allowing Sir JOHN GURNEY to practise the noble virtue of—RESIGNATION. It is time he were relieved from the trouble of trying Chartists.

“THE GREAT UNPAID.”

Things have come to a pretty pass, when the people have to be protected from, instead of by, those to whom is delegated the administration of the law. Great complaints have been made, from time to time, of the capricious conduct of the unpaid magistracy—“the great unpaid,” as COBBETT used to call them—and recently has the conduct of the very judges of the land been arraigned.

When a country justice, “decked in a little brief authority,” interprets the laws as his clerk may advise him—sometimes, we fear, simply upon his own ideas of their bearing—the chance is that he often “commits” himself as well as the accused person or persons brought before him. The natural excuse arises—the man cannot be expected to know

as much of the statutes as one who has been bred to the law. We have seen, however, even in some of the metropolitan police-offices, presided over by barristers of a certain standing, that errors of judgment frequently occur, not so much from ignorance of the law as from caprice of temper. We grant that such escapades have latterly been of more limited number and extent than formerly; still, they do occasionally occur, and strongly bear out the old saying, that no man is wise at all times.

The Bench, like Cæsar’s wife, should be above even suspicion. In the provinces, however, a great many things have lately been done which by no means are calculated to exhibit the magistracy in a favourable point of view. On Tuesday evening Mr. T. DUXCOMBE laid before the House of Commons such a statement of facts, the main truth of which has not been refuted, as shows the necessity of instituting some reform in the system of administering the laws, and of putting the local magistracy under more direct responsibility than they are at present subject to.

Certain persons, resident at Birmingham, Manchester, Carlisle, Halifax, Sheffield, Nottingham, Stockport, South Shields, Loughborough, Southampton, and the Potteries, petitioned the House of Commons respecting certain grievances which they had sustained from magistrates in their respective places of residence, and solicited relief. Mr. DUXCOMBE brought these complaints before the House, and moved that a Select Committee be appointed to enquire into and report upon the alleged grievances, and the evidence respecting them. The House, nearly every member of which is himself one of “the great unpaid” was seized with a fit of indignation at the mere idea that country magistrates could err, even by accident, and by a majority of 196 to 32, declared that no such enquiry should be made. Here is another proof of the ill effects of class-legislation! But, as Mr. DUXCOMBE said, with truth and boldness, the majority in the House would prove to be a minority in the eyes of the people.

Perhaps the complaints of the petitioners were “frivolous and vexatious” on their very appearance? No, they bore the undoubted marks of truth, and, indeed, no one had the audacity to declare that they were not “founded on fact.” There was a tacit acknowledgment that the magistrates (in different places had erred—but, as it was kindly attributed to their zeal, the shield of immunity was extended over them. What a mockery is the name of “popular representation,” when the House of Commons refuses even to inquire into the imputed delinquency of the provincial administrators of the law! We do not hold extreme opinions in politics; but our firm belief is that such conduct as this, on the part of Parliament, is sufficient to make Chartists of all the thinking men in the kingdom.

The imputed grievances arose out of the disturbances which, in the course of last autumn, had nearly “frightened the isle from its propriety.” While these disturbances raged, the local magistrates appeared as if mentally and physically paralysed. With few exceptions, they acted as if the revolt could not be checked; but, when it was put down, they rallied, and commenced a series of unconstitutional persecutions against every one brought before them as known or suspected Chartists. In one case, prisoners were arrested, and, instead of being carried before a magistrate, for examination, was put into a dungeon at once, thence to be brought up in a few days; or, being so brought up, they were remanded, without examination, for thirteen days, simply on the assertion of a policeman that “he dared to say he should be able to have some evidence against them,”—good bail being offered and refused, and when finally received—ninety-six hours being allowed to elapse after it was first tendered, the charge eventually being dropped from want of evidence to support it. In another case (that of Mr. TURNER, of Manchester), a man, suspected of printing a placard, was committed to prison, without examination, for three or four days, and every

obstacle thrown in the way of his procuring bail. In the case of TUCKER and SEDDON, two persons, against whom no charge could be sustained, were actually imprisoned for nineteen days, and then held to bail, merely on a suspicion which was groundless. We need not run through all the details; but may add, as a proof of the extremes to which the authorities went, that, at Leicester, persons were apprehended after the riots, and actually held to bail for having walking-sticks! Beggars, suspected of Chartism, were imprisoned for three months, with hard labour, under the Vagrant Act, the justice declaring that he was sorry he could not give them a longer time, and the pious chaplain of Leicester gaol saying—"I believe you are innocent, because you are all in one mind and one tale; but God is visiting you for some of your former sins."

The Rev. M. SCHOLEFIELD, at Manchester, was kept in prison for seven days without any charge whatever having been preferred against him in that time, and bail being refused. GEORGE WHITE, of Birmingham, was committed to prison on the evidence of hired and acknowledged spies; and Mr. RICHARD SPOONER (once a violent Liberal, and now a rabid Tory) refused the bail of respectable and solvent men, declaring that he should not accept the bail of any who held the same political principles as the accused! Even when bail was put in, one of the authorities of the town went to a most respectable man (who happened to be a licensed victualler, and who had offered to become bail for the petitioner), and said to him, "*Your licence will be in danger on the next licensing day if you become bail for George White.*" The issue was, that WHITE had to stay eleven weeks in prison, and his papers and other property were taken away by the police; Sir JAMES GRAHAM—that pink of Home Secretaries—refusing to give them back or state why they were detained.

A very flagrant case was that of Mr. BROOK, a school-master in Todmorton. He was arrested on a charge of sedition, and taken before a "great unpaid," one JOHN CROSSLEY, Esq., who commenced abusing him, and said—"I have got you at last, and I am glad of it, and I will take care to punish you; you have given me a deal of trouble with writing to that rascally 'Northern Star.'"
The well-known case of O'NEIL should not be passed by. For him, two town-councillors of Birmingham offered bail, and the magistrates refused them because one, six months before, had taken the chair at a Chartist meeting, and the other had signed the requisition convening it. Now, in bail, the solvency of the sureties, and not their political opinions, must be looked to. Staffordshire magistrates think differently. It seems, however, that this refusal was made in consequence of a compact between the magistrates of Worcestershire and Staffordshire to that effect. Lord Chief Justice DENMAN emphatically declared that such refusal was illegal; and the magistrates' defence was, that they did not know it was contrary to the law. Fancy a prisoner appearing before a country justice, and pleading ignorance of the law! We suspect that such a plea would not save him from the treadmill.

The House of Commons have refused inquiry into any of these cases. Yet the Lower House consists, we are told, of the representatives of the people. If so, they certainly perform their duties in a very odd manner.

We cannot conclude these remarks without noticing the very extraordinary manner in which a liberal paper (the *Sun* of Wednesday) speaks of Mr. DUNCOMBE's motion. It says—

"The conduct of some of the magistrates was improper, and in one instance they had been called to account in the Court of Queen's Bench, and judgment was given against them. Mr. DUNCOMBE might therefore have known that the House of Commons, always reluctant to interfere in cases of this kind, would, to a certainty, refuse the Committee. The usual discretion of the hon. Member was wanting on this occasion. His object was to impugn the conduct of the magistrates, but on finding that he would receive so little support from Liberal Members he should not have brought it forward. He intended blame; but the division shows that the accused parties, if not entitled to praise, had acted under all circumstances with the best intentions. He, therefore, conferred honour upon them, and at the same time gave the Home Secretary an opportunity of classing him with the monomaniacs of the day. Sir James Graham, as will be seen from the report, turned the opportunity to good account."

Here it is admitted that some of the magistrates acted in an improper manner, and that, in one instance, the Court of Queen's Bench called them to account, and gave judgment against them. Was Mr. DUNCOMBE bound not to expose their misconduct, because it was likely the House of Commons would not back him? Is he to be accused of want of discretion, because he made that exposure? Are not the Liberal Members rather to be blamed for not supporting him? But, quoth the *Sun*, "the division shows that the accused parties, if not entitled to praise, had acted under all circumstances with the best intentions." Dr. JOHNSON has told us what place is "paved with good intentions."

The *Sun's* theory is that, No matter what magistrates do, no matter how they violate the law, it must be presumed that they act "with the best intentions;" and any one who asks for an investigation of their conduct must be considered as wanting in "discretion." Strange doctrine this for a Liberal Paper!—Mr. DUNCOMBE would have been better supported by the Liberal members if he had not driven many of them out of the House, in disgust at his most unfair and unjustifiable attack on the Anti-Corn-law League. What right had he, calling himself a Liberal Member, to attribute the disturbances of last autumn to the

League? He had no grounds for such imputation. He must have known, when uttering it, that it was false. Who appointed him a judge over better men than himself? We say "better men,"—better in abilities, better in honesty, and better in morality than Mr. THOMAS SLINGSBY DUNCOMBE. But the old leaven of Toryism is in that man, though he now sides with the ultraism of the Chartists. Let his constituents call on him to oppose the tax on bread, or surrender his seat. The time has arrived, we believe, when all the constituencies must do this. We want no nominal Liberals upon our side, in or out of Parliament.

FOOD OR EDUCATION?

Sir JAMES GRAHAM, on the part of the Cabinet, has intimated their wish to educate the people. *Would it not be better to feed them?* The starving millions ask the Government to abolish the landlord's rent-raising-tax on bread, and the Minister says, we cannot give you the quarter loaf for three pence; but pay that sum weekly, and see what an education you shall have! "Bread!—give us bread, for we starve," exclaim the masses; and the Home Secretary answers, "Pray, do not mind the cheap loaf—here's a primer for you."

A B C is excellent, for it is the foundation of that Knowledge which is Power, but even an excellent thing may be out of season. When the millions are actually languishing in want, and starving with hunger, it is cruel mockery to prate about educating them. Give them food; and then, by all means, let them have education.

"But," carps some stupid Tory, "the Government cannot give food to the people."—They can abolish the duties upon food so as to reduce its price within the people's means; that they can do; and that, Mr. Pensioner, they must do. The Ministry, at this moment, can do or leave undone what will give cheap bread to the people, and give such an impetus to trade, by opening new and enlarging of markets for the consumption of British produce, that wages will rise, and plenty abound. The Ministry who refuse to repeal the Bread-Tax are guilty of the crime of taking food out of the people's mouths.

We conclude, as we commenced, by saying that it is a mockery to offer the people food for the mind when they are famishing for want of food for the body.

SUMMARY OF FOREIGN NEWS.

Our foreign intelligence this week possesses but little interest. From the chief papers we select the following:—

FRANCE.

The *Journal des Débats* contains a letter from one of those who accompanied the naval expedition to Otaheite. This letter fully explains how the possession of the island was compassed. The English missionaries strongly opposed the native women going on board any vessels which arrived. They knew the consequences; and though some of the rigour of the laws could not be applied by all persons, yet in this respect there cannot be a dissentient opinion. The French admiral, says the writer, most certainly would not have admitted the women on board, had not the English missionaries opposed it. But hearing that they did oppose it, the French admiral had one hundred women on board, dancing and feasting till a late hour. French habits were accordingly by far the most agreeable, and the consequence was that the missionaries were voted bores, and Admiral Dupetit Thouars and his Sovereign voted delightful persons. The latter was accordingly appointed King of the Polynesian Cytherea.

The *National* states that Admiral Dupetit Thouars has not accepted solely the alliance offered him by the Queen of Otaheite, but that he has really taken possession of the Society Islands.

The same journal contains the following paragraph:—"The lifeless body of a Pole, named Olo Lewekiew, was found in the Bois de Boulogne on Thursday last, and beside him a loaded pistol and eleven ball cartridges. It was first imagined that he was the victim of a duel without seconds; but the numerous wounds in his head, and the position of the pistol which he held in his hand, led to the conclusion that he had been assassinated by his adversary."

In a discussion on Post-office reform, which took place in the French Chamber of Deputies, on Friday, the Minister of Finance said the negotiations between England and France on international postage had made considerable progress, and were likely very shortly to yield a result which would facilitate the correspondence between the two countries, and promote the interests of both.

On Friday morning, Norbert and Depre, condemned by the Court of Assizes last January for the murder of a carpenter, were guillotined at the Barrière St. Jacques.

During many months the crime of murder has been as often nightly occurrence in Paris and its neighbourhood. The following paragraph, which we copy from the *National*, places the matter in a point of view that cannot surely be overlooked by the authorities:—"The capital has become for some time past the theatre of audacious murders. The Forest of Bondy is more secure than the first city of the civilized world. On Wednesday night last an unfortunate operative, who was late on his return home, was taken up bathed in blood in the Rue de Boudonnais, and shortly after expired. It is possible that the police, with a million of secret service money, cannot at least protect the lives of the citizens?"

SPAIN.

We have received Madrid journals and letters of the 20th inst. The former are quite barren of news. The latter state that the result of the elections was still doubtful; but that, although the belief prevailed that they were unfavourable to the Government, the Cabinet seemed determined to meet the Cortes, and to deliver out the matter as it was under discussion. The list of the senators to be appointed by the Government was already drawn up, and it included none of the candidates of the Moderado party. A rich capitalist, M. Juan de Zulueta, had arrived from Cadix, with the intention, as was thought, of bidding for the Almaden and Almadeneque Mines contract. It was rumoured that Mr. Aston was not to return to the English embassy, and that his successor was to be Lord Mahon.

PORTUGAL.

A dreadful occurrence took place on the 27th ult. in Trás-os-Montes during the floods. An enormous burst of subterranean water rushed from the peak of a steep mountain (whose base was washed by a river and two streams), to the height of more than 100 yards upwards of 350 feet, then doubling over the precipitous sides of the mountain, fell with incredible force and volume into the valley beneath, sweeping everything before it—rocks, trees, walls, and houses, with large masses of cultivated soil. From a portion of a village built in the valley, it swept away six human beings in its irresistible torrent, four of whom were instantly drowned, and two others—a youth of 12 and an old man of 70—were borne far out of the valley into the exterior plain. On the same day, and at the same place, a similar phenomenon, attended with similar results (excepting the loss of life), occurred at the opposite point of the same mountain; which was doubtless traversed in all directions by the incompressible element. The *Sardinian* frigate has left this port. The French line-of-battle ship still remains.

GERMANY.

On Monday morning several persons of the suite of Prince Augustus of Saxe Coburg arrived at the Tuileries. The Prince is to take up his residence at the Palais Royal. It is stated in some of the German papers that, by the contract of marriage between this Prince and her Royal Highness the Princess Clementine, the bride is to have an income of 100,000 francs per annum, and the Prince 100,000 francs per annum. According to the *Gazette des Postes*, the Emperor of Russia proposes to visit Berlin in the course of the summer, for the purpose of arranging some diplomatic questions which at present are unsettled.

TURKEY.

The Turkish papers state that the Sultan of Persia was greatly incensed at the attack made by the Pasha of Bagdad on Kerkelab; and the Persian Minister for Foreign Affairs had published a most exaggerated account of the matter, stating that Kerkelab had been destroyed, and that 20,000 persons had been put to death. It was feared at Tcheran that hostilities with Turkey would be renewed. Sir Stratford Canning, in the mean time, was exerting himself to the utmost to arrange the dispute. Sarim Effendi had assured Sir Stratford Canning that the town of Kerkelab had not been injured, and that not more than 500 men had fallen. He gave the British ambassador, at the same time, to understand that the Porte did not fear to make war against Persia.

Reschid Pasha, the late ambassador at Paris, after remaining seven days unnotified in Constantinople, had at length, on the night of the 7th, been admitted to an audience by the Sultan. He continued to be extremely unpopular; and it was even made a matter of reproach that he should have accompanied a steam-boat from the Austrian Navigation Company to convey him from Vienna to Kustenje.

A commission, composed of a bishop and some clergymen belonging to the Russian Greek Church, had arrived at Constantinople from Syria, and requested permission from the Divan to proceed to Russia, to collect subscriptions for their Church in Syria. This request the Porte could not refuse, although they were well aware of the consequence, as every object can be accomplished in Syria with money.

AMERICA.

AMERICAN EMBASSY TO CHINA.—We see by the Washington papers, received by the last mail-steamers from Boston, that Congress had passed an act, appropriating 40,000 dollars to defray the expense of an Embassy to Peking, for the purpose of making a commercial treaty, and Mr. Nathan Dunn, the wealthy merchant, and very talented proprietor of the circulating "Chinese Collection," proposed as the most suitable person to receive the important appointment, from his long residence of eleven years in Canton, his thorough knowledge of the Chinese character, and of the trade of that immense empire, as well as for his high integrity and moral worth. We understand that Mr. Dunn scrupulously participated in the denaturing opium trade, and when application was made to the Viceroy of Canton for permission to ship his splendid museum, his highness promptly granted the request, saying that Mr. Dunn had never violated the laws, or been engaged in smuggling opium.

PARLIAMENTARY INTELLIGENCE.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

After the despatch of some routine business, the Earl of ABERDEEN stated, in answer to a question from the Marquis of Lansdowne, relative to the occupation of the Otaheite Islands by the French, that he had received intelligence from Paris on the subject, but he was not aware of the precise ground on which the French Government had put forward their claims against the authorities of these islands. He would state at the same time that he did not think that the commercial or political interests of England would be at all interfered with by the French occupation of the islands, and that the attention of the Government would be directed to the interests of the missionaries in those islands, and that due care would be taken to see that to them every right and privilege to which they were entitled.—Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

A new writ was ordered for the Earl of Durham, in the room of Captain Fitzroy, who had been appointed Governor of New Zealand.

Several private Bills were advanced, and petitions on various subjects presented, including some against the Corn-laws.

Dr. H. G. GALEA postponed his motion relative to the Bishop of Jerusalem till Monday next.

Sir G. G. GALEA gave notice that he would, on Monday next, move for leave to bring in a Bill for the better regulation of Charitable Trusts for the purposes of Education.

Mr. HUME moved for a copy of the North-West Boundary of the United States as agreed to by the treaty of Washington. He withdrew his motion for a vote of thanks to the Government and to Lord Ashburton for the conclusion of this treaty—which stood for Friday—on account of an informality in its proceedings, with the intention of substituting another of similar import in its stead.

Lord J. RUSSELL postponed the second reading of the Municipal Corporations Amendment Bill till the 5th of April.

SUPPLY.

The House went into a committee of supply on the civil contingencies, for which £211,000 were demanded.

Colonel STANLEY complained of the inconvenience to which passengers, on landing in England, are subjected by the officers of the Customs.

Mr. HUME repeated a recommendation, which he said he had made very often before, that the civil contingencies and miscellaneous estimates should always be submitted to a select committee before they were brought forward in committee of the whole House. There was hardly one item in those estimates which was not the subject of expatriate and mature deliberation. He found a charge in the civil contingencies of more than £2,000 for the mission of Lord Wilton to the King of Saxony with the insignia of the Garter. He objected to the distribution of such baubles among those who fancied them, but he did not like to see them made thus expensive to the country. Then there was a charge for the christening of the Prince of Wales; and, why was not this defrayed from the large revenues of the Prince of Cornwall? He objected to other items, individually small, but constituting a large aggregate burden on the public.

Mr. PEARCE explained, that the items objected to by Mr. Hume were not estimates of the future expenditure, but accounts of the past. He contended that there was a much more efficient control over expense when estimates were submitted to the House of Commons, than there would be if they were introduced under the supervision of a select committee. In the case of the mission to Saxony, Lord Wilton received no remuneration for his services, but was charged with the cost of his noble lord except that of his conveyance, and, though Mr. Hume might think the Garter a bauble, yet, as long as its insignia were an object of ambition to the greatest Sovereigns of Europe, had divested herself of the whole of those revenues, and assigned them to trustees for the Prince. The expenses of his christening had been defrayed by the Queen from her own funds; and the only charge to the country was for the fittings of St. George's Chapel, her Majesty having thought it proper, at whatever inconvenience to herself, that the sacred rite should be performed in public, for the sake of example to all her subjects. So little had she sought to relieve the Exchequer at the cost of the people, that she had voluntarily submitted her own private revenue to the Income-tax.

Captain BERNAL moved a resolution of the sum £2603 (required for the expenses of the Bishop of Jerusalem. This amendment was rejected, on a division, by 112 against 37.

Mr. ELLICE, Jun., objected to the next vote of £577 13s. 4d. for erecting the Bishops of Barbadoes, Antigua, and Guiana, and of Gibraltar and Trinidad.

Lord STANLEY explained that this charge had been defrayed from a sum due to the retired Bishop of Barbadoes for arrears of salary, which he had most liberally waived for the purpose of relieving his successors, the new Bishops of Barbadoes, Antigua, and Guiana, from the expense of those three Bishops being, to receive, among them all, no more than the salary heretofore assigned to the Bishop of Barbadoes alone. This explanation accounting to satisfy the House, the objection was withdrawn, and no civil contingencies was taken at the full amount proposed by Government.

Sir G. CLEAK then proceeded to move the miscellaneous estimates.

BARBADOES'S CALLING MACHINE.

Some explanations were given by Sir GEORGE CLEAK respecting the discontinuance of the outlay incurred in the partial construction of a calculating machine, for the superintendence of Mr. Babington. The new discoveries of that gentleman himself had made the principle of it obsolete; and Government had hesitated to engage in the construction of a costly machine upon the new principle.

Mr. HAVES indicated the expenditure already incurred for this object. The prosecution of it had led to the invention of several beautiful instruments, which had been found highly serviceable in the cotton-manufacture; and the importance of a process by which tables of logarithms could be secured against the possibility of error, would be best understood from the consideration that the one mistake in a decimal place might cause the shipwreck of a cargo three times as costly as the machine.

THE PARKS.

Mr. HUME and other members present, that the Office of Woods should restore the fountain in the park at Bushy and allow the public to drive through the park at Richmond. At present, only pedestrians were admitted, except by special leave from the ranger.

THE CASTLES OF ENGLAND.—NO. IV.



CARLISLE CASTLE.

ERELY regarded in a picturesque point of view, our old Baronial Castles, whether still proud in their stony grandeur, or crumbling day by day into the dust, whereto they are kin, form ever the most striking objects that arrest the eye of a tourist in his transit through England. Yet welcome as they are to the eye, on account of the aid they lend to the landscape, there is besides a moral grandeur about them, which speaks more strongly to the reflecting mind than their aspect ever does to the vision; for, gazing upon one of

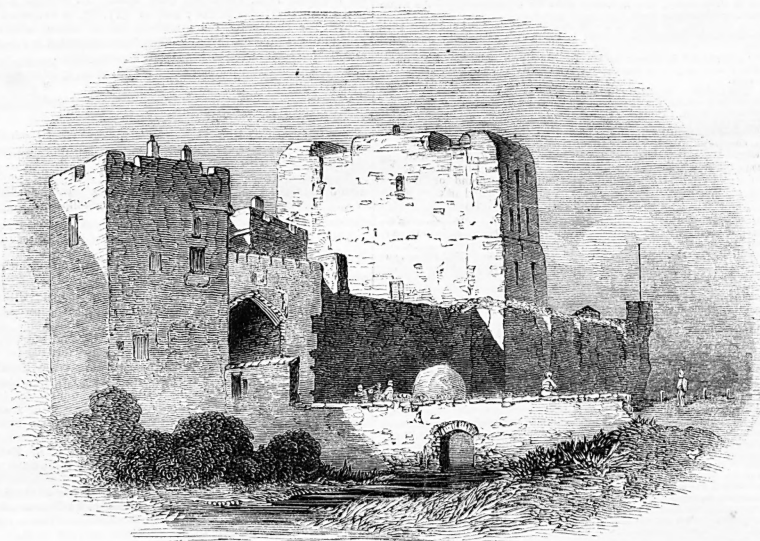
these worn monuments of our ancestors, we cannot fail to reflect on the changes that have occurred since the structure first rose proudly above the subject lands around it. He who was as a sovereign lord within these proud walls, whose shrill clarion could evoke squire and vassal to do his bidding in the fierce onslaught, or repel from his lordly towers the attack of the foe—he who held the lives and fortunes of those around him in his own grasp—he, and generation after generation of his noble descendants, have gone down to the cold, silent, and narrow grave. High and low, lord and serf, Norman baron and Saxon churl, have slowly passed away; and here, mouldering in the precincts of the village churchyard adjacent,

“—vassal and lord,
Grossly familiar, side by side consume.”

Amongst these “towers of other days” is Carlisle Castle, the subject of our sketch, which occupies a prominent position at the north-west angle of the city, and dates its origin from the time of the Roman invasion. After suffering numerous accidents by flood and field, it was rebuilt by William Rufus, who, in 1092, garrisoned the castle and established a city there, which retained its ancient name of *Cair Lail*, given by its previous founder, a British chief of that name. As Stephen soon after ceded the whole county of Cumberland to David, king of Scotland, in 1135, it is probable that the fortifications were completed by that monarch for his own protection from the border raids and southern rovers of his neighbours. It would occupy too much space to follow in detail the future fortunes of the Castle through each successive age; but we may add that, at the commencement of the civil wars, this city embraced the royal cause, and held out for a long period against the besieging parliamentary army, under the command of the notorious General Leslie.

George Fox, the founder of the Society of Friends, was here imprisoned, in the year 1653, on account of his religious tenets. During the Pretender's rebellion in 1745, Carlisle Castle was several times taken and retaken by the opposing forces, but was finally in secure possession of the Government.

The Castle is of an irregular form, and consists of an outer and an inner ward, the thickness of one being nine, and the other twelve, feet. The former, two sides of which are formed by the city walls, is quadrangular, and contains no buildings of importance—except an armoury, which is now converted into barracks for the infantry. Its capabilities may be judged from the fact of its being sufficiently commodious to have received, at one time, 10,000 stand of arms. The donjon, or keep, is in the inner ward, which is triangular; and there is also a circular archway which leads from the outer to the inner ward, and is supposed to be that portion of the Castle erected by William Rufus. The other parts are evidently of later date—corresponding to the reigns of Richard III., Henry VIII., and Elizabeth, by all of whom it was at different times built and repaired.



THE THEATRES.

The few weeks preceding Easter are invariably marked by a gloomy calm in the theatrical world which only the production of the Easter novelties can dissipate. Under these circumstances we have but little to record of moment in our dramatic periscope of the week. The only topic of conversation has been the appearance of a new star of no ordinary brilliancy, which culminated on Saturday evening last, in the horizon of

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.

The name of the new vocalist who has appeared here during the week with such success is Signor Fornassari, and his voice is a bass of the very first quality. With all the volume of tone and rich *quinto* which Lablache possessed, there is a greater compass, and, in fact, the organ has evidently undergone greater cultivation. In person he is prepossessing, and in feature most expressive. *Belshario*, one of Donizetti's best compositions, was the character chosen for his *débüt*; and his acting throughout in it was vigorous and impassioned,—a commendation which it is rare to find singers deserving in general. There is a vast improvement visible in the chorusses here, which it would be ungrateful on our parts to leave unnoticed. Instead of these gentry remaining—as from time immemorial they have remained—unmoved by the passing occurrences of the stage, they now actually represent human beings, and with a power of conception almost incredible, infuse animation into the concerted pieces, for which we were really not prepared. Such an unusual procedure must not—shall not—pass unchronicled.

COVENT GARDEN.

Colman's admirable comedy of “John Bull” has been here resorted to as a dernier attraction; but, however highly its literary merits may be appreciated, we cannot regard its magnetic property as being by any means so efficacious as the lessee seems to consider. It was not badly cast, considering the contracted resources of the company, but this negative praise is all we can

allow. The Easter novelty has thrown machinists and carpenters into active requisition, but further the deponent saith not.

DRURY LANE.

There has been nothing produced here to elicit the slightest comment since our last. “*Othello*” has been repeated, with the same inverted cast as before; and “*Comus*” has still continued to remain the most favourite afterpiece. The opera of “*Sappho*,” which had been postponed, in consequence of a domestic calamity occurring to Mrs. Alfred Shaw, will be produced this evening, and the scenery and appearances are said to be far exceeding anything of the kind heretofore produced. We look forward with feelings of considerable interest to the appearance of Clara Novello in this opera.

ASTLEY'S.

This favourite amphitheatre for the amusement of children both of a smaller and a larger growth, throws open its portals on Easter Monday, its form having, Phoenix like, risen from the fire endowed with fresh beauty. From the rich allegorical Grecian dome is suspended a magnificent chrysal and gold chandelier, emblematic of Fame holding the courses of Triumph, whilst its hundred of drops (when lit up) will diffuse an exuberance of style and light which, we anticipate, will outvie in beauty and brilliancy anything hitherto exhibited. This established temple of equitation has been erected by Mr. Batty, at a vast expense. It will open with historical, military, equestrian, and dramatic productions. The former will be sustained by the well-known stud of beautiful Hanoverian, Flemish, Canadian, Persian, and Arabian horses, with the *petit chevaux*, or studs of Babylon, and the wild zebras and sacred spotted mules of Jerusalem. The circus or arena of equitation is placed in such a position, that a perfect view can be obtained from the distant seats of the upper gallery. The new grand national spectacle is founded on the late wars in India, and we understand that a most graphic representation will be given of those memorable events on the extensive stage, which is 71 feet by 101,

OLYMPIC.

Benefits have here usurped the ordinary nights of performance. Thursday is appointed for that of Mr. Charles Baker, whose exertions as a stage-manager can never be too highly appreciated. His *annonce* embraces the drama of “*Life's a Lottery*,” “*The Artful Dodge*,” and a new melo-drama written for the occasion. If merit as an actor, and good feeling as a man, can censure patronage, he will have a bumper.

JULLIEN.



PRECEDENCE to Julien! Who is there that, with a recollection of the Concerts Promenade, has forgotten that slim, white-waistcoated, and kid-gloved figure, under whose magic baton these harmonious reunions were conducted? Julien, whose portrait, presented by himself to the fair daughters of England, has enslaved some thousand admirers—Julien, whose name, linked with the “*Irish Quadrilles*,” will live in the annals of music for ever—Julien, whose cravat and mystic tie have been themes for the propounders of fashionable novelties to build volumes on—Julien—but the pen, even one of Alderton's incomparable steel pens, grows weary in the enumeration of his attributes. He is, or rather *was*, truly the observed of all observers; but though we regret to use the past instead of the present tense, necessity, the mother of truth as well as invention, demands our adherence to fact rather than fiction. Monsieur Julien, then, whose evanescent reputation has been equal to that of many more deserving of popularity, is now, we are compelled to add, wasting his sweetness—if not on the desert air, at least on the more malignant atmosphere arising from incarceration in one of Louis Philippe's retreats for unfortunate debtors. We trust, however, this favourite ladies' composer will ere long be able to make such an *adagio* movement in his own native land, as will, from a few bars rest, set him at liberty in a minima of time.

GOSSIP OF THE GREEN-ROOM.

The opera of “*Jossonda*,” in which the French tenor singer Duprez is to make his appearance at Covent Garden Theatre, was put into rehearsal on Saturday. The chorus will be augmented; and a negotiation has taken place between the lessee and the gentlemen of the Choral Society, to appear on the occasion.

The American equestrians at the English Opera House, terminate their season on Saturday night, after a most unsuccessful campaign. The principal members of the dramatic company have been dismissed in a manner very unusual, the Directors asserting that the speculation has entailed upon them a very heavy loss.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Lacy, of Covent Garden, have entered into an engagement with the proprietor of the Adelphi theatre, for a period of three seasons.

BATH THEATRE.—The taste for the drama in this once fashionable town has so greatly declined, that the combined attraction of Mr. Farren and Mrs. Glover the last few nights, did not amount to a £15 house on any evening of their engagement.

Mr. Charles Kean is fulfilling an engagement at the Edinburgh theatre; the health of Mrs. Kean is still so infirm as not to allow her to appear.

BRISTOL THEATRE.—Madame Celeste, Mr. Webster, and Mr. Strickland are engaged for a few nights at this theatre.

Tegioni is shortly expected at Paris, where she has entered into an engagement of two months with the Académie Royal de Musique.

MR. TEMPLETON'S BENEFIT.—On Monday evening Mr. Templeton takes his benefit at the Princess's theatre, Oxford-street. He has a capital “bill of fare,”—“*I Puritani*,” and “*The Waterman*,” in which he will take the parts of *Lord Arthur Talbot* and *Tom Tug*. Madame E. Garcia and Mr. Weiss will sustain the parts of *Elisavà* and *Sir George Walton*, in the opera. Mr. Templeton scarcely requires any recommendation from us. He ranks as one of our best native vocalists, and the lamented Malibran said he was the best British singer she had ever heard. He may calculate upon a very crowded house.

The annual “Covent Garden Theatrical Fund” festival takes place on Wednesday next, at the Freemason's Tavern. To the end of providing for the future comfortable subsistence of those actors, and their widows and orphans, whose claims upon the public as caterers for their amusement are universally allowed, the daily exertions of Mr. Meadows, the active honorary secretary, and Mr. Bartley, the treasurer, have been during the last month most assiduously devoted. We shall give a full report of the proceedings in our next number.

METROPOLITAN.

The ARCHBISHOP OF ARMAGH.—The Lord Primate of Ireland has been severely indisposed, having suffered from an attack of gout. His Grace was obliged to postpone his official duties in consequence.

The Marquis of Granby, the Earl of Wilton, and Lord Forester, have accepted the stewardship of the Croxton Park races, on the 6th and 6th of next month. The Duke of Rutland, and a brilliant party of fashionable men, will honour the meeting with their presence.

AN ADMIRER OF WORKS OF ART.—We have reason to know that you are not mistaken in our statement.

AN ADMIRER is informed that no person of the name of Campbell has any connection, literary or otherwise, with this paper.

C. C. THE EDITOR'S initials were attached to some very peculiar lines, which have this week reached us, from the pen of a pretensor who is ambitious of seeing himself in print. We think that the *Am. Intelligencer* will soon be able to give us the name of this person, and we are sure we will deny the existence of editorial charity! Please say that we are too fastidious in the article Poetry. To justify ourselves we need the lines to which we have alluded.

C. C. And need only say, if an editor, with any respect for his own gibbet them, as we do here and there?—

Sneak up! o'er the slumbering world the glorious sun ! In Heaven's Majesty
Drinks up earth's yelling mists—and throws on all its crav'nt rays ;
All nature wakes !
The woods to the winds answer, the birds to the woods
The flowers unfold, and throw around their charms,
The busy bee begins to hum—and beating beats their natural bent pursue
Echo starts like life—and again goes on the din of wondrous day—
Again goes on the everlasting interchanging war
Creation breathe—creations perish
Ah—how many now commit self-Murder—
Prostrating their strength of mind and body—in beds of lust and sweat—
Aye! very young—their eyes are closed—dissevered from Nature
Strum!—luscious—withering—and crumbling form
Dead to all nature—and all nature dead to thee:
How many now—debauch'd and dizzy brain'd!
Create vain whimsies themselves—Glimpses of the glorious night
And unconscious of thy heavenly glories—sink like us :
Not like beasts—for what beast is there—
That doth not acknowledge thy coming O Sun!

F. B. (Salisbury).—*The information will be found in* "A The Student's and
Teacher's Handy-Book of Natural History," compiled by Stephen, Marshall and
Co., London. It should be in the hands of every medical apprentice, and
may be called the chemist's Yoda Mema.

C. J. H.—*Destined, with thanks, because our arrangements are already
made, we will still tell you so to it at that point.*

THE IRISH SKETCHES scarcely possess sufficient interest at present.

SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 1843.

With the exception of the debate upon the misconduct of the Country Justices (upon which we have commented at some length elsewhere), and the Premier's apologies for keeping up extravagant and useless expenditure on behalf of Royalty, the business in Parliament has been more than usually dull this week. The writ for Nottingham was ordered to be issued on Thursday, after an attempt on the part of Mr. Cochrane to allow Mr. Walter to be a candidate, on the ground that he was wholly unconscious of the wholesale bribery committed.—This is rather "too bad," as it was proved (as Mr. Hogg, chairman of the election committee, said) "that the acts of bribery at the Nottingham election had been the result of an organized system, and executed by agents who were members of Mr. WALTER's central committee." It is worth notice, too, that the motion for suspending the issue of the writ, complained of by the Duke of Newcastle as a most intolerable piece of tyranny, was made by the Earl of Lincoln, his Grace's son.—Mr. Ferrand has obtained leave to bring in a bill for making compulsory allotments of waste land to the poor. Emigration is inadequate, and the allotment system would greatly relieve the labouring classes, by bringing the waste lands into cultivation. Ministers have not opposed Mr. Ferrand's plan, but we fear that they will give it very lukewarm support.

Sir ROBERT PEEL stated, the other evening, in the House of Commons, that the QUEEN (whom God preserve!) had determined to lay aside all the revenues of the Duchy of Cornwall, in order to form a fund for the support of the PRINCE OF WALES, when he reaches the age when Royalty usually becomes expensive. We happen to know what an immense amount of public money was lavished on and by the *last* PRINCE OF WALES, and we were delighted to find that the QUEEN had, at last, seen the propriety of being economic with respect to the moneys belonging to her "son and heir."

It has been said, by competent authority, that "promises, like pie-crusts, are made to be broken." On a sudden, the *Globe* of Tuesday annihilated all the hopes we had formed about royal savings. That well-informed journal had this paragraph:—

"THE PRINCE OF WALES.—It is generally rumoured in the Court circles, that a separate establishment will shortly be formed for his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales. There is every reason to believe a number of domestics will be selected for the young Prince not in any way connected with her Majesty's household."

If this be true, Parliament undoubtedly should interfere. It is the very sublime of absurdity to think of "a separate establishment," for an infant of some fourteen months. What does the child want of such a thing? Let him have a couple of nursery-maids to take care that he is kept clean and tidy, and a small "tiger" to draw him about in a little carriage, or hold him on his hobby-horse, and more he need not have. The people are starving, and the PRINCE OF WALES, a squalling baby, yet in arms, is to have "a separate establishment." Seriously, any such thing, if actually carried into effect, would deserve the most decided censure from the public. Has not the QUEEN one *real* friend, who will honestly tell her how wrong such an expenditure would be just now?

The public will be delighted to learn that the Anti-Con-law Movement has extended to Ireland. A Belfast paper (the *Northern Whig*) informs us that, last Monday, "pursuant to a requisition numerously and respectfully signed, a meeting of the inhabitants of Newtownards, was held for the purpose of taking into consideration the propriety of petitioning Parliament for the total and immediate repeal of the Con-laws. Notwithstanding the extreme severity of the day, the yard was densely crowded, not less than seven hundred individuals being present." Able speeches were made by Messrs. JOHN McKITTRICK, JEFFREY, O'NEILL, WALLACE, BALD, DOBBIN, and DR. ROSS. A most powerful address was delivered by Mr. McKEAN. Now, that popular feeling is thoroughly awake in the North of Ireland, we may expect to hear of its triumphant progress from the Giant's Causeway to Cape Clear.

In England and Scotland the good cause gains ground every day. The League meetings, at Drury-lane theatre, have greatly contributed to interest the public in the great questions of cheap bread and Free Trade. Mr. Cobden's speech, on Wednesday evening, which will be found in another column, will most amply reward perusal: it is earnest, eloquent, and argumentative.

We this week commence a series of articles giving the history of the rise and progress of the League. They are from the pen of a distinguished political writer, perfectly well informed upon this subject.

We do not mean the Duke, but simply his Grace of NEWCASTLE, the ex-Lord-Lieutenant of Notts, and formerly pretty well known for his famous borough inquiry, "Can not I do what I like with my own?" He has turned sympathiser—not exactly like the Yankee borderers in the late Canadian revolt—but with no less a personage than JOHN WALTER, of the *Times*. It is well known that the said WALTER has been unseated for bribery ("by his agents") at Nottingham, and the Lord of Clumber writes him a long letter of condolence, on that melancholy event, in which he clearly gives a side-blow at Providence for having allowed WALTER to be "ill-used, unfortunate, and persecuted." He adds—what no one would otherwise have guessed—that Nottingham owes WALTER "a debt of gratitude for amended proceedings, a better tone and feeling, and, consequently, a much improved character." What an awful place must Nottingham have been, if the "much improved character" of WALTER-ite bribery is to be hailed as a source of dual congratulation!

WALTER, taken quite off his legs, at the bare idea of getting a real letter from a real Duke (such as he is), writes a reply, which must have astonished his lordly correspondent, — openly declaring that his Grace's station as Peer of the realm has precluded him from any interference in the late elections at Nottingham. Oh, dear! Innocent JOHN WALTER!! Peers *never* interfere in elections!!!

WALTER's reply, we dare say, was written for him by one of the editors of the *Times*—perhaps by the very gentleman who, some thirteen years ago, bitterly satirised the Duke for his borough-mongering tyranny. Be that as it may, the Duke is the most forgiving of mortals, to pass over the wholesale abuse of the *Times*, in other days, and write a letter of condolence to its proprietor. Let them lament together!—the Duke can say that, but for the Reform Bill, he should have had a rotten-borough at WALTER's command; and WALTER may reply that, had he known to what Reform would have led, the *Times* should have matted in 1838, instead of 1834.

SIR,—You have every claim to be considered one of the "Great People," if not on account of eminent talent, at least on account of eminent station. You have achieved the object of a public man's highest ambition, and fill a distinguished place in the world's eye,—yet, methinks, yours are barren honours, after all. The public do not supply you with

"Love, honour, and obedience,—troops of friends,"

and the Queen upon whom circumstances have forced you, does not now think it worth her while to maintain even the *show* of friendship towards you. At this moment, Sir ROBERT PEELE is decidedly the most unpopular statesman in England. The people blame you for depriving them of that Free Trade with the world which would give them full and profitable employment. They hate you, because they say you have sold out the nation's son as a man of yesterday—the Aristocracy despise you, because you are a man of yesterday, yet with the same high pretensions as if "all the blood of all the Howards" ran in your veins;—the Whigs hate you because you have ejected them from offices,—the Tories do not trust you, because you played the part of a political Judas to them in 1829,—and the very farmers in whose favour you nominally carry your unpoppy Corn Law, drink you as a man of yesterday, because you have done all that a man of yesterday ordinary. If Mr. O'CONNELL be "the best-abused man" in the empire, you, Sir ROBERT, are, without exception, the most distrusted, despised, and disliked.

It has been boasted, I know, by the Duke of WELLINGTON—and I believe by yourself also—that your uprise as a public man shows how merit can arrive at high station in this country. You boast, whoever made it, has little foundation in fact, as the Duke and you are concerned. It is quite true that you were a poor, penniless boy, but how had he been able to rise there and what would you have been? Your father had the luck, by enterprise and industry, to amass an immense fortune, and it cost him a comparative title to put you into Parliament, for the borough of Cashell, in 1800, a short time after you were of age. This was the first step—the greatest difficulty was overcome. At the University, your studies had been more than usually distinguished, for you took the most of your education at the University of Oxford, where you took the first-class degree at Oxford,—not granted except to the highest proficiency in classics and mathematics. Thus you entered Parliament, preceded by that particular reputation for successful scholarship, which, in former days, invariably got a man favour in the eyes of the Lower-House members. You entered Parliament—you were a young man of a million of money,—and even if you had been a fool (which no one would say), you might have been a fortune teller, if you pleased, or a quack, or a soldier, or a wretched beggar.

It is clear that your natural position should have been for and with the people. Your birth, your sympathies, your position, appeared to mark you out for one of the leaders of the people. By you hankered after the aristocracy; you had an itch for rubbing your skirts to the quality; you valued the Noble's smile more than the peasant's blessing, and you quitted the noble's service for the peasant's. You desired the assent of the people, and your own father had sprung; and you, who might have been your country's pride, as a popular leader, battling for the struggling rights of the many against the usurping might of the few, turned away from them to join their natural enemies. Do you not sometimes regret that you did so abandon your order, and join the ranks of the oligarchy? What a great man you might have been!—alas, Sir ROBERT, how far from greatness are you, now, NOW!

In 1809 you entered Parliament as representative—by purchase, from the PENNEFATHER family—of the snug pocket-borough of Cashell. At that time there yet lingered a few of the great men of an earlier day—SHERIDAN, with his sparkling wit; TIERNEY, with his quiet sarcasm; WILBERFORCE, with his real philanthropy and affected saintedness; WINDHAM, with his thorough

English feeling; and WHITEHEAD, with his honesty. Among the great men of that day were—CANNING, HUSKISSON, GRATTAN, CASTLEREAGH, and BUCKETT. Of the rising men the most eminent were—CROKER, CHARLES GRANT, Lord HENRY PETTY, and FRANCIS HORNER; while, much about the same time that *you* entered Parliament, BROUGHAM, PALMERSTON, and FRED. ROBINSON made their appearance on the same scene.

Well do I remember how, on the 23rd of January, 1810—before you had completed your twenty-second year—you were selected to second that annual piece of humbug, the Address, in reply to the royal speech. GEORGE TIERNEY told me, the next day, that you had made a *plausible* speech;—how little did he or I foresee that the epithet should stick to you, like a burr, and that, some thirty years after, the ROBERT PEEL of that day should be known as the Sir ROBERT PLAUSIBLE of this!

SPENCER PERCIVAL saw that you were a laborious, plodding, and well-informed young man, and made you into Colonial Secretary. On his death, in 1812, Lord LIVERPOOL, elevated you to the Chief Secretaryship of Ireland, under the Duke of RICHMOND, who you flattered in 1819, and in which you managed to become notorious for three things:—You became such a partisan of the *Protestant* faction, as to obtain the *soubriquet* of "ORANGE PEEL," you contrived to enter into a personal squabble with O'CONNELL, which led to a challenge, but no duel; you established that army of policemen who to this hour are called "PEELERS" by the Irish, over whom they rough-ride.

In 1817 your ultra-Protestant fanaticism procured you the honour of being chosen by the bigots of Oxford University as their representative in Parliament. In 1819, you meddled with the Currency, and made two holes, like the gypsy tinkers, while mending one. In 1822, on the resignation of Viscount STAMFORD, you became Home Secretary, and then commenced your peddling reforms of the law, which really did little, though they were boasted of as wonders.

From 1800 until 1820, a period of twenty years, the bitterest opponent of Catholic Emancipation was Mr. PEELE. When CANNING became Premier, you resigned office, on the express ground of his having a desire to grant Emancipation. In less than two years from that time you actually brought forward the Catholic Relief Bill! Oxford indignantly rejected her recent son. But the bill was passed, and one point about it worthy notice—you introduced it, which year by which year your old opponent O'CONNELL was compelled to be re-elected for Clare, instead of taking his seat, on his election in June, 1828. This showed the littleness of your mind in a remarkable manner.

In 1830 the Whigs turned "the Duke" and yourself out of office. Parliamentary Reform was introduced, and resisted to the last by you. The measure passed, and you organized an Opposition, which gradually rose into a very powerful party. In 1834, when you came from the Continent, Mr. Canning, your old friend, gave you the seals of the Admiralty, and you introduced some powers for which you were given your credit. You introduced some measures for the relief of the poor, and some measures of Reform. But the tide set strongly against you; and, in April, 1835, your administration fell to pieces. Untaught by reverses, the Whigs did little for the people on their return to power, and a ministerial break-up was only prevented by the accession of the present sovereign, in June, 1837. The case, gentlemanly manners of Lord MELLOR, who was your favourite at Court, and your old friend, will record him as the man who, as Chamberlain who, as Lord of the Palace drawing-room, retained office wholly and solely because the Sovereign had got used to his pleasant, gossiping chit-chat, and dreaded the idea of losing his society! May, 1839, arrived, and a Ministerial turn-out was rendered necessary by the defeat of the Executive upon the Jamaica question. You were empowered to form an Administration, and, having done so, you were again made an exception to the rule, and were left to your own devices. You were surrounded by chamber-maids and waiting-women, *Eye, Sir Bonnet*, for once it was "Check-mate by the Queen!"

At length the happy day came when the Whigs really went out, and you actually came into office. Much was to be done; for, truth to say—partly from Whig carelessness and partly from the obstructions thrown in their way by the Tories—public matters were in a very bad way indeed. You devoted six months for your prescription. The patient, public opinion, was so ill that you were obliged to administer your duties—your fished, wholesale, from the Whigs; the worst part, perpetuating the folly of the sliding-scale of corn duties and corn prices, was entirely your own. To crown all, there was an income-tax, the peculiar beauty of which is, that it makes no distinction between the unvarying income of the capitalist and the ever-shifting income of the labouring man; and, as a result, the bread of the poor is made dearer by their own exertions. The inquisitorial nature of that impost, draws down "a curse not loud but deep" upon your head. Sir ROBERT.

The present session, in which after two months, we see nothing done, has exhibited you in a new character. Sir, you should have taken to the stage, years ago, "Steady John Cooper" (as the most economic of all actors is called) has not a tenth of your ability. You would have done *Joseph Surface* to the life—a little too plausible, perhaps—and your affected indignation in the Cobden affair shows how sweetly you would have sustained the part of *The Angry Boy*, in "The Alchemist." Clear was the attempt to make Mr. CONNEX your comedy, which he did not use, and meaning which he never dreamt of. But it was only an *attempt*, thanks to the "pluck" of him whom you attacked. You fancied that Mr. CONNEX was to be frowned down or laughed down, and you found that opposition made him only more firm. He was undisturbed by your own pretended anger, and by the noise of your Treasury follower. He repeated, that if your measures caused evil in the country, upon you, as head of the Administration, must rest the responsibility of wintever excesses should go on. You might irritate the people. But do not think that you are not the cause of the "Minister's" misdeeds. Why, sir, if you do, it is clear that you know little of the British Constitution. "The King can do no wrong," and, therefore, if wrong be done, his Ministers are the "responsible" parties.

Your own charity, Sir ROBERT, actually fear, while they obey you. *Ours* admit your power and your talent (such as it is, for they has been much over-rated), and await the time when you will coolly turn round and make a merit of repealing the accursed Corn-law. This you will one day certainly do; but it is your ill-fortune ever to be too late in your concessions. When an organic change in the representative body has been demanded by the people, we shall find you repealing the Corn-tax. A man of genius takes public opinion—a man of second-rate ability follows in its wake. You never lead—you follow public opinion, and at a snail's pace you

The end I can foresee. You will one day hide your head in a coronet, and join the congenial dulness which forms the moral atmosphere of the House of Lords. *There*, you will probably re-appear into an out-and-out Tory, sport on your person even more gold chains and trinkets than you now exhibit, and flatter yourself that you have been a great man in your day.

I shall not be so unjust as to deny you some merit. You have done many kind and even generous things for literary men, and you have ever been the kind patron of British Art. Would that all with your ample means had equal taste and liberality!

I am, sir,
Your obedient servant,
O. P. Q.

SPORTING INTELLIGENCE.

TATTERSALL'S—THURSDAY.

If the actual amount of business transacted yesterday afternoon on the Derby was less than on Monday, it was, in some respects equally important. Its extent, and the effect produced on the prices, will be better explained by a selection of the engagements than by any remarks we can offer. 750 to 100 agst A British Yeoman; 16 to 1, three or four times, agst Murat; 20 to 1, taken to a large amount, agst Cotherstone; 20 to 1 each agst Napier and Gaper, taken freely; 40 to 1, to about £150, agst Gamecock; 50 to 1, to a score, and 45 to 1 to nearly £100, agst the Mercury; 1,000 to 20, three or four times, agst True-bloy; 1,000 to 15 and 2,000 to 25 agst Humbug, &c. Of this select few, Cotherstone, Gaper, and Napier were the lions. Offers to lay 25 to 1 each agst Aristides, Winsour, the Languish colt, and Amorino.

For the Chester cup, Marshal Soutz was backed freely at 9 to 1; the other betting was flat and uninteresting. We subjoin the averages at the close:—

CHESTER CUP.

- 9 to 1 agst Lord Chesterfield's Marshal Soutz (taken freely)
12 to 1 — Mr. Isaac Day's Marine
13 to 1 — Mr. Lover's The Corsair (taken)
14 to 1 — Mr. Plummer's Alice Hawthorn (taken)
15 to 1 — Mr. Woodman's Millepede (taken)
16 to 1 — Sir W. Stanley's Forester
20 to 1 — Mr. Goodman's Reaction

TWO THOUSAND GUINEAS STAKE.

- 5 to 1 agst Colonel Peel's Murat (taken)
500 to 50 agst Murat winning this and the Column Stakes.

DERBY.

- 7½ to 1 agst Mr. Blakelock's A British Yeoman
15 to 1 — Mr. Goodman's Macabees
20 to 1 — Mr. Bower's Cotherstone (taken freely)
20 to 1 — Colonel Peel's Murat (taken)
25 to 1 — Mr. Bell's Winsour
25 to 1 — Lord Westminster's Languish colt
25 to 1 — Sir George Heathcote's Amorino
25 to 1 — Lord Eglington's Aristides
30 to 1 — Col. Anson's Napier (taken freely)
30 to 1 — Lord George Bentinck's Gaper (taken freely)
40 to 1 — Mr. T. Taylor's Gamecock (taken)
45 to 1 — Lord Orford's Mercury colt (taken)
45 to 1 — Mr. Griffith's Newcourt (taken)
45 to 1 — Duke of Richmond's Cornopoean (taken)
50 to 1 — Mr. D. Cook's Truebloy
50 to 1 — Colonel Peel's St. Valentine
1000 to 25 — Mr. Ford's Humbug
1000 to 10 — Lord Exeter's Lucetta colt (taken)
750 to 100 — Cotherstone, Aristides, and Languish colt (taken)

OAKS.

- 5 to 1 agst Lord Westminster's Maria Day
15 to 1 — Colonel Cradock's Peggy (taken)
15 to 1 — Mr. Price's The Lily (taken)
25 to 1 — Mr. Lumsley named The Fairy (taken)
25 to 1 — Duke of Grafton's Memoir (taken)

THE AËRIAL STEAM CARRIAGE.

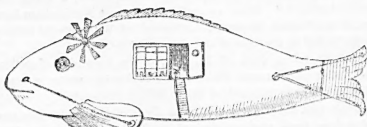
This wonderful testimony to the inventive powers and vast mechanical skill that characterise the nineteenth century has, at last, appeared to satisfy the incredulous and the curious that the project, absurd as it first seemed, was not at least a mere chimera existing alone in the artist's imagination. Conceiving that a brief summary of the previous attempts that have been made in various ages to navigate the air, will not be without interest at the present time, we shall, before entering into a description of this recent invention, glance at the former contrivances used, or attempted to have been used, for the same purpose. In doing so, it is not intended to fatigue the reader with a dry and uninteresting detail of the history of aërostation; we have culled the flowers of the art, and here present them in a bouquet of our own composing.

The first person that seems to have formed a just idea of the principle on which an aerial machine could be constructed, was Albert, of Saxony, a monk of St. Augustin, who lived in the fourteenth century, and who wrote a learned commentary on the physical works of Aristotle. He seems to have been perfectly cognisant of the principle on which Montgolfier afterwards constructed his balloons, but lacked the means, or perhaps the inclination, to carry out his theories into practice. The next most noted and elaborate scheme for navigating the air, was proposed by the Jesuit, Francis Lana, in a book written in "choicé Italian," about the year 1673. His project was to procure four copper balls of very large dimensions, yet so extremely thin that after the air had been extracted, they should become in a considerable degree specifically lighter than the surrounding medium. These four balls he thought would, therefore, rise together into the atmosphere with a combined force of 1,220 pounds, which the projector deemed sufficient to transport a boat completely furnished with masts, sails, oars, and rudders, and carrying several passengers, from place to place. To extract the air from their cavities, the method proposed was to procure a Torricellian vacuum, by connecting each globe, fitted with a stop-cock, to a tube at least 35 feet long; the whole being filled with pure water, and raised gently into a vertical position, the mass of liquid exceeding the pressure of the atmosphere, would flow out and subside, leaving a vacuum behind. There appeared to this sanguine Jesuit no very great difficulty in directing and impelling the aerial bark; but the chief obstacle to be overcome he declared to be the hazard of being wrecked in the air from sudden and vehement tempests. Yet what alarmed, perhaps, most of all, the insinuating Jesuit, was the danger that would result from the successful practice of the art of aërostation to the existence of civil government and all present human institutions; "For," says he, "no walls or fortifications could then protect cities, which might be completely subdued or destroyed without having the power to make any sort of resistance, by a mere handful of daring assailants, who should rain down fire and conflagration from the clouds." These chimerical fears were, however, as it was afterwards proved, created most unnecessarily; for the projection not being feasible, soon fell into disrepute.

The next plan for navigating the air was propounded in 1755, by one Joseph Gallen, a Dominican friar and professor of philosophy in the Papal University of Avignon. This visionary proposed to collect the fine diffuse air of the higher regions where hail is formed above the summits of the loftiest mountains, and to inclose it in a bag of a cubical shape, and of the most extravagant dimensions, extending more than a mile every way, and composed of the thickest and strongest sail-cloth. With such a vast machine, rivaling in boldness and far exceeding in magnitude the ark of Noah, it would be possible, he thought, to transport a whole army, and all their ammunition and accoutrements besides. A scheme like this, however, so manifestly chimerical, and involving besides the erroneous supposition that the air of the upper regions is thinner and more elastic than the air below, was never a general favourite, and we find accordingly it was not even subjected to experiment. In an old Spanish work, one copy of which only is extant, there is made mention of an aerial machine for navigating the air, to be patented in Portugal, by a friar called Bartholomew Lawrence de Gusman. The drawing represents a vessel somewhat in the shape of a bird, and the description says that it contained several tubes through which the wind was to pass, in order to swell a kind of sail, and that this was to navigate the machine. The necessary power seems to have been gained from a vast number of bellows worked by

machinery, and concealed within the body of the machine. To a sort of canopy spread over the vessel, several pieces of amber were attached, which were intended to pull up the lower part of the machine. These, with chains of magnets dispersed in various places, formed the motive power; but history is silent as to its ultimate fate. From this period there is a blank in the history of aërostation until about the year 1734, when we find an advertisement in the newspapers of that period, directing attention to an extraordinary aerial machine, designated the "Flying Dolphin," which was to take its first flight into the air from the fields at Canonbury, near Islington. Here it remained on exhibition for several weeks, and a few attempts were made to raise it into the atmosphere, one of which actually succeeded, for the fish swam majestically through the air to the extent of about a quarter of a mile, but the ropes giving way the guiding line was disengaged, and the whole affair fell to the ground with considerable velocity. The motive power employed, it is conjectured, was common coal-gas; but though several future efforts were made to ensure its ascent, they all proved unsuccessful. The fins were to be employed for the preservation of its equilibrium and the tail was to be used as a kind of rudder; but as in this stage of the art no idea of the resisting power of the atmosphere ever occurred to disturb the dreams of these speculating enthusiasts, the practice was generally found at direct variance with the pre-existing theory.

From an old print of this stupendous and unwieldy contrivance we are enabled to subjoin the annexed sketch.



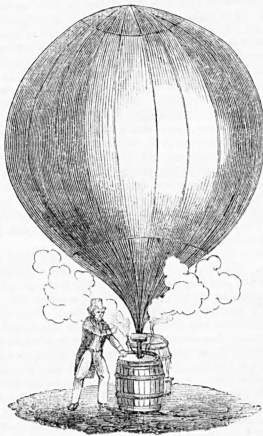
THE "FLYING DOLPHIN."

The next grand step towards the improvement of the aërostatic art, was the simple yet ingenious discovery made by the two brothers, Montgolfier, at Annonay, where they had a paper manufactory.



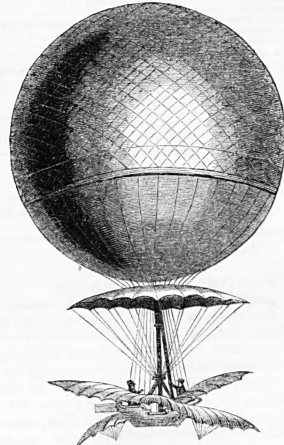
THE MONTGOLFIER BALLOON.

The two Montgolfiers, as it is well known, were the first to succeed in sending an inanimate body into the atmosphere, and



ROBERTS'S BALLOON.

causing it to be suspended in mid-air. The manner in which these experiments were made, by burning chopped straw and wool in order to rarify the air in the body of the balloon, is too well known to need repetition. The first ascent took place on the 5th of June, 1783, on their own grounds at Annonay; and this creating a ferment in the scientific world, a second successful experiment was made in the month following at Paris, when M. Pilatre de Rozier, the first man who ever ascended in a balloon, rose with the Montgolfier to an altitude of 400 feet. Dazzled with the success which attended these trials, aeronauts now made their appearance in every part of France and England. Messrs. Charles and Roberts were the next adventurers; then M. Lunardi; and to these soon followed M. Blanchard, who was the first to use oars attached to the car of the balloon, with the idea of impelling the machine by these means. Hydrogen—or as it was then styled inflammable-gas—began now also to be used as a substitute for rarified air; and lest this gas should cause the balloon to burst, M. Blanchard contrived to affix a parachute to the car, which might be detached in case of necessity. This ingenious foreigner made 36 voyages through the air, the most famous of which was the one wherein he crossed the English Channel, 7th January, 1785.



BLANCHARD'S BALLOON.

In returning the compliment, Messrs. Rozier and Romaine lost their lives, for the balloon by some means caught fire, and the unfortunate voyagers were crushed by the fall. The first balloon seen in England, was the one constructed by Count Lembeccari, which that skilful Italian intended should be used as the means of transport for Government spies; the legislature, however, disapproved the idea, and it was shortly after abandoned altogether. The remaining features of our sketch may be briefly disposed of. Parachutes were made the subject of repeated experiments. Garnerin flung himself, by their aid, several times from his car, and alighted as frequently in safety. In 1804, Gay Lussac and Biot, two enterprising French philosophers, ascended from the environs of Paris to the greatest altitude then attained for the purpose of making some experimental researches in natural philosophy, and to these gentlemen we owe, even now, chiefly indebted for our knowledge of atmospheric influences. In late years the ascent of a balloon has become so common as scarcely to excite wonder or create attention. The memorable aerial voyage on the 7th of November, 1836, when Messrs. Green, Holland,

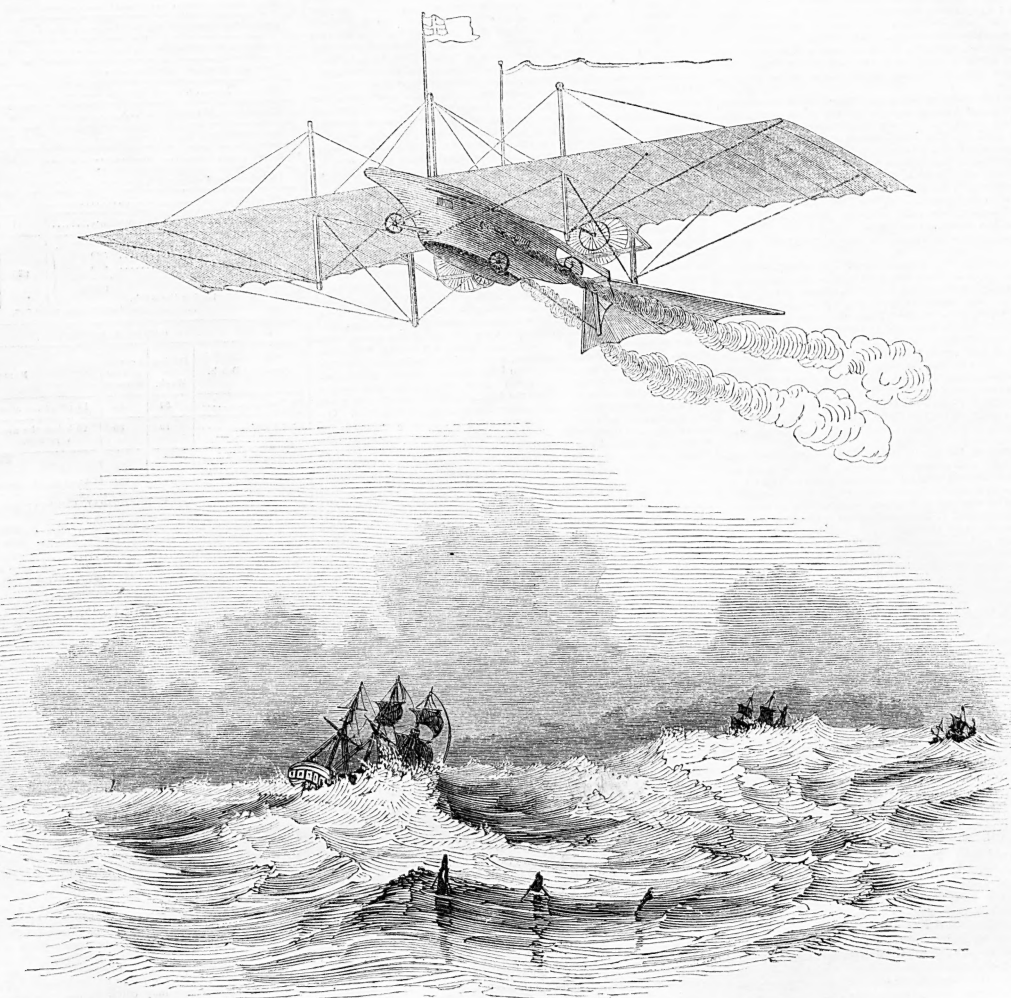


and Monk Mason ascended from Vauxhall Gardens at half-past one in the afternoon of one day, and arrived at Weilburg in the Duchy of Nassau by seven o'clock on the morning of the next, may be classed amongst the most extraordinary feats of this nature ever performed. Mr. Green has himself made nearly five hundred ascents, and though several times placed in situations of the most imminent danger no accident of a serious nature has ever yet occurred. Such is a summary of the most prominent features which the art of aërostation has yet presented, and now we find ourselves about to give a description of a machine to which the wildest dreams of the alchemists of the middle ages can scarcely afford a parallel.

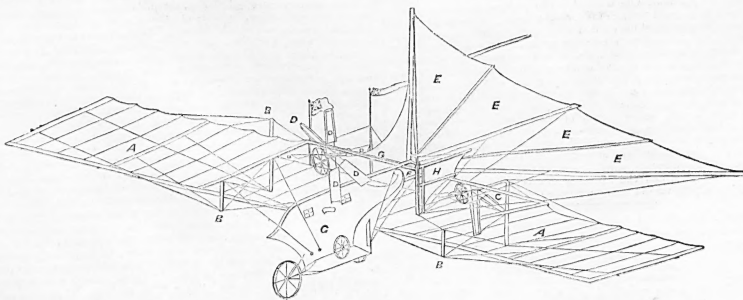
THE NEW AËRIAL STEAM CARRIAGE.

When it was announced some time ago, by the ordinary monthly lists of patents granted, that Mr. Henson had invented a machine capable of conveying despatches and passengers through the air, the general impression was, that some moody and enthusiastic projector was about to exhibit the produce of his day dreams. Our readers may, therefore,

THE NEW AËRIAL SHIP.

[illegible]

to describe the machine itself, and its mode of flight. Its ear, enclosed on all sides, and containing the passengers, managers, &c., which is so steam-engine, is suspended to the middle of the condenser, and is constructed as to combine strength with extreme lightness, and is constructed as to combine texture which is moderately light and close. This main frame or expanded surface, which is 150 feet long by 60 feet wide, serves in the most important respects. It advances through the air jointless and without vibration. The lower part of it rises perfectly up to the top of the sails foremost and a little elevated. To the middle of the other long side is joined the tail, of fifty feet in length, the control which is the rudder. These important appendages are governed by cords powered by the steam-engine. Situated at the back edge of the main frame are two sets of vanes or propellers, of 20 feet in diameter, driven by the steam-engine. We have already said that the velocity of the machine is imparted at its starting. The descent the covering of the wings is made before the machine reaches the bottom that descent is so rapidly spread. By this time the velocity acquired has such an impact of the sloping under that the resistance produced is sufficient to sustain the entire weight of the machine, just as the brisk wind upholds a kite, and prevents the pneumatic resistance thus procured by the sails from preventing the falling of the carriage, it opposes also the office of the steam-engine. The latter and some other peculiarities of this important member of the carriage are the respective constructions of its boiler and condenser. The former consists

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NEW CHAPEL ROYAL.

The ceremony of consecrating the new Chapel Royal, Buckingham Palace, took place on Saturday, the Archbishop of Canterbury officiating.

At half-past eleven o'clock the Bishop of London arrived at the Palace in his episcopal robes, and was shortly followed by the Archbishop of Canterbury, also in his robes, attended by his chaplain.

At twelve o'clock the Queen and Prince Albert entered the royal closet, accompanied by the Duchess of Kent. In attendance were the Duchess of Bedford, mistress of the robes; the Countess of Gloucester, lady in waiting; Hon. Misses Murray and Lister, maids of honour in waiting; Lady Fanny Howard, lady in waiting on the Duchess of Kent; the Lord Steward; the Lord Chamberlain; the Master of the Horse; Viscount Sydney, lord in waiting; the Master of the Household; Captain Duncombe, groom in waiting; Colonel Buckley and Sir Edward Bowater, equerries in waiting on her Majesty and the Prince; and the Rev. Mr. Vane, deputy clerk of the closet in waiting.

The pews in the side aisles of the chapel were filled with company, consisting of the lords and ladies in waiting, and the ladies of the principal officers of the household. Among those present were the Duke and Duchess of Norfolk, the Countess Delaware, and the Ladies Elizabeth and Mary West, the Earl of Lincoln, chief commissioner of her Majesty's woods and forests, the Countess of Jersey and Lady Clementina Villiers, the Earl of Devon, the Viscountess, Viscountess Sydney, Earl and Lady Catherine Jernyn, Lord and Lady Ernest Bruce, Sir Henry and Lady Wheatley, Hon. Mrs. Dawson Damer, Mr. George Edward Anson, and Mr. More, the architect.

The seats in the centre aisle of the chapel were appropriated to the household.

On her Majesty's arrival, the Archbishop of Canterbury, attended by his chaplain, the Rev. B. Harrison, proceeded to the communion table, where her Majesty's warrant was presented, commanding him to consecrate the chapel. His Grace received the warrant, and directed the registrar, F. H. Dyke, Esq., to read it; and the same having been read, his Grace declared that he was ready to consecrate the chapel.

The Archbishop then proceeded to the consecration and dedication thereof, and walked in procession, preceded by Mr. Lingard, sergeant of the Chapel Royal, and the middle aisle, and returned up the same to the communion table, attended by his officers, the Right Hon. John Nicholl, D.C.L., vicar-general; the Rev. B. Harrison, chaplain; and Mr. James Taylor, apparitor; and the clergy—the Bishop of London, the Bishop of Norwich, clerk of the closet; the Rev. Dr. Hodgson, dean of Carlisle (rector of St. George's), and the Rev. Dr. Sleath, sub-dean.

The chapel is erected on the site of one of the conservatories. The interior has a very light and elegant appearance: the side aisles are divided from the centre by two rows of fluted composite columns, supporting a painted and carved into a canopy, and the roof is of the same stucco. It is lighted by windows at the sides, finished with architraves, and surmounted by pediments. The Queen's closet is elevated on Doric columns across the west end of the chapel; the altar front the royal closet at the opposite end of the communion table had a covering of crimson velvet embroidered with gold; the back of the altar, the seats, and the cushions were likewise of the same rich materials.

The front of the Queen's closet, the pulpit, and the reading-desk were also covered with crimson velvet edged with bullion fringe and bordered with gold.

The royal closet is lighted by a number of small circular-headed windows, and corresponding windows are also introduced at the other end of the chapel, over the altar.

The pews in the side aisles, occupied by the lords and ladies of the household, and the seats in the middle aisle are covered with crimson.

After the ceremony the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishops of London and Norwich and the clergy, and also the ladies and gentlemen of the household present at the consecration, partook of a *dejeuner à la fourchette*.

GERMAN RAILROADS.—During the year 1842 nine German railways have either opened or extended, making an addition of 363 German (143 English) miles to the lines previously open to the public. Two of these were railways that were at once thrown open in their entire length, namely, the Berlin-Frankfurt (503 English miles long), and the Hamburg-Burgdorf (10 English miles long). Those of which only portions were thrown open were the Berlin-Stettin, the Upper Silesian, the Saxo-Bavarian, the Vienna-Glockner, and the Prussian Rhine. The Berlin-Frankfurt railway, open to the public in Germany, at the close of 1842, amounted to 200 German (94 English) miles. In 1843, it is expected, 66 German (31 English) miles will be added, namely, from Olnitz to Hohenstadt, in Moravia, from Angermünde to Stettin, from Hanover to Brunswick, from Wolfenbüttel to Magdeburg, with a branch line from Oesersleben to Halberstadt, from Heidelberg to Karlsruhe, from Brigg to Oppeln, from Breslau to Schweidnitz and Freiburg, from Aix-la-Chapelle to the Belgian frontier, from Bonn to Cologne, and from Altenburg to Weimern. During 1842, there were opened railways in Belgium to the extent of 563, in Holland of 174, in France of 16, in Italy of 28, and in Great Britain and Ireland of 165 English miles.

CONCURRENT METEOROLOGICAL PHENOMENA.—It is a remarkable circumstance that about forty-eight hours preceding the appalling earthquake which visited Guadalupe and other West India Islands adjoining, a terrible hurricane suddenly broke out in the British Channel, which lasted several hours, and which extended over a very considerable space, both of sea and land. There was also a very sudden and heavy fall of snow, which happened about the same time in England, Scotland, Ireland, France, Holland, &c. Rapid changes of the meteorological instruments were also observed simultaneously, in various parts of the country, accompanied with extraordinary variations of the temperature. These phenomena were generally noticed at the time. From the commencement of the year various extraordinary meteorological appearances have prevailed, among which not the least was an eruption of Mount Etna, which occurred in January.

CHESS.—The *Courier Français* states that a new chess-player has appeared, who bids fair to rival Philidor and de Labouardais. This person, named Laigle, the proprietor of the Café de Paris, at Valenciennes, whilst sitting in a closet off the room in which the chess-board was placed, answered the moves of four antagonists with a degree of sagacity and promptitude which excited the admiration of the numerous visitors attracted by this singular contest. After 42 moves, the four players confessed they were *mated*, and the fortunate player received the well-merited eulogium of the numerous admirers of his talent.

ENGLISH MACLACHLAN. of the 42d Highlanders, was tried at Malta on the 29th ult., for throwing valiants at the "Host," and sentenced to six months' imprisonment.

IT'S A FACT.—Young ladies who are accustomed to read newspapers, are always offered to have winning ways, most amiable dispositions, invariably make good wives, and always select good husbands.—*American paper.*

GROSS DARKNESS.—In the course of a rafter's harangue, delivered a short time ago near Hungerford, after inveighing in good set terms against "the gross darkness"—"worse, we suppose, than Egyptian—in which the whole world is enveloped, the preacher considerably inquired of his congregation if they knew what gross darkness was? "The universal reply was in the negative. "Well, my friends," continued the erudite theologian, "you know what common darkness is—don't you?" "Yes, yes," was of course readily responded by the people. "Well, then," resumed the preacher, seriously and with a grave face, "gross darkness is 144 times darker than common darkness." (For the information of our lady readers it is necessary to explain that "a gross" is twelve dozen—"a great gross" 144 times 144.) We may add that the ignorance of this enlightened teacher is, to continue the figure of "the great gross" description—namely, 144 times 144 more than ordinary.—*Herts Chronicle.*

OPENING OF THE THAMES TUNNEL.

The Thames Tunnel is now open for the transit of passengers. Another wonder has been added to the many of which London can boast; another triumph has been achieved by British enterprise, genius and perseverance. If Londoners may boast of their city, they may be equally proud of what they themselves have done towards turning its capabilities to the utmost account, and profiting by the facilities which it afforded them in one way, while they triumphed over the difficulties which it presented in another. The bridges over the Thames are unequalled almost unapproached. It was Canova, we think, who said that Waterloo-bridge was worth going a thousand miles to see; and London-bridge and Blackfriars-bridge are both of them as exquisite in their proportions as colossal in their dimensions. And it is but meet that the most remarkable river of the world, in point of fame and commercial greatness, should have the most remarkable means of transit from bank to bank. But great and beautiful as the bridges which span the Thames are; bold as have been the designs of some, and skilful their execution, they must all yield in point of grandeur of conception to the idea of a means of communication beneath the stream which should not interfere with the busy world floating upon its surface; and, in points of execution, to the engineering science by which, after years of labour and difficulty, this grand design was at length wrought out. Above the Thames man was busy, on either bank the trophies of his skill and industry were piled; to complete the triumph it only required that he should carry his arts and his activity far beneath it.

Twenty years have now elapsed since the first plan and proposals for the framing of a tunnel beneath the Thames were submitted to Government. The advantages which could not fail to arise from the successful execution of such a work were obvious; the difficulties were not fully foreseen, and the expenses were very much under-calculated. So the work began; but difficulties and obstacles of every kind were soon to be encountered. The soil was in many places of the worst possible description for boring; here it consisted of loose sand—there of mud. Every scheme which science could suggest and engineering could guard against danger and ensure success; but again and again the river burst in, adding to the hazard of the workmen, while it protracted the period of their toil. In 1828, so formidable were the difficulties encountered by the engineers and artificers, that, for a time, the design was abandoned. The capital was exhausted, and the river had once again burst upon the excavation. For seven long years the work remained untouched, the muddy waters of the Thames washing the half-finished brickwork, and rendering useless the labour and perseverance of years. But the projectors of the Tunnel were not permanently daunted. Government came to their aid, the necessary funds were supplied, and active measures immediately adopted to complete the undertaking. The water in the Tunnel was accordingly got rid of, the breach through which it had entered filled up, and the building and excavation recommenced. From that period the works have been rapidly and successfully carried on. From time to time those who watched their progress were informed that all was going on safely and well; yet, until low-water mark on the Middlesex shore was attained, people could not help fearing that something unpromising might still occur, and that the Tunnel was an undertaking of too great vastness—of too great difficulty ever to be triumphantly achieved.

Now it is, with a trifling exception, completed. The stream of traffic in the busy east end of London has another avenue opened to it, and thousands will probably daily pass under the Thames and its clustered shipping, in great and small craft, with great confidence, as if nought intervened between their heads and the blue sky.

To the genius of its engineer, as well as the enterprise of London and of England, the tunnel will long bear witness. It is a speaking record of daring conception, of consummate skill, and of persevering industry. It will be the monument of Sir Isambard Brunel, and of his partner, Christopher Wren; and if it possesses not the marvellous and obvious beauties of the latter, yet to those who ponder upon its real nature, the Thames Tunnel will appear the most vast and marvellous structure of the two.

With respect to its success as a commercial speculation we have little here to do. We trust that in this point as well as on others, it will answer the expectations and hopes of the directors. Every one must be aware of the narrowness and crowded state of the thoroughfares upon either bank of the river for miles below London bridge, and of the advantages which must result from any conveyance that could be made, could a part of the stream of traffic be turned into a new and spacious channel, such as is—or, at all events, will shortly be—supplied by the Tunnel. It opens up a new avenue to the farmers of Kent, by which to bring their corn, fruit, and vegetables to the eastern portions of the metropolis; while, on the other side, it affords a ready and convenient outlet for the produce of the rural population, located upon either side of the river, carrying on constant communication between opposite wharfs and warehouses, where the frequently crowded state of the river renders the passage by boats slow, inconvenient, and even dangerous, the advantages of such a means of transit as the Tunnel are as obvious as the eye can see.

Into any description of the Tunnel we shall not be expected to enter. Accounts of its form and dimensions have been too often before the public not to be well known. At all events, the cheap rate at which the sight can now be purchased, will surely induce all, who have any curiosity about one of the most stupendous works the world can afford, to visit it—to view and admire for themselves.

Much bustle and activity prevailed, from an early hour on Saturday, in the neighbourhood of the Rotherhithe shaft. The inhabitants of the locality seemed to have determined to take advantage of the opening of the Tunnel for the enjoyment of a most grand and growing holiday, and flocked around the shaft. Towards the afternoon the visitors who had obtained tickets for the opening began to arrive—steamer after steamer deposited its freight of passengers to the Tunnel, who were landed at the pier on the Middlesex shore, and crossed the river in boats, while a goodly number of vehicles crowded to the scene, as they were preferred a noisy to the "silent highway." Everything was quite a holiday appearance. Flags were flying from the church-steeple, from wharfs, and from the shipping on the river, and all the bells in the parish rang a merry peal.

The visitors were partially assembled in a marquee pitched close to the entrance of the shaft, and partially admitted into the shafts and tunnel. Among the gentlemen in the principal marquee we observed the Lord Mayor, Lord Dudley Stuart, Sir Edward Colingridge, Sir Robert Inglis, Mr. Hume, M.P., Mr. Hawes, M.P., Mr. Roebuck, M.P., Mr. Warburton, late M.P. for Bedford, Mr. Henry Wallcut, Charles Babbage, Esq., the Misses Rennie, Dr. Faraday, Messrs. Maudslay and Field, Mr. Brunel, jun., and last, not least, but greatest, the venerable engineer of the Thames Tunnel, Sir Isambard Brunel. A great number of gaily dressed ladies were present, enlivening and varying the scene. At four o'clock a royal salute was fired from the Company's wharf. A march was struck up by the very efficient band in attendance, and the procession, headed by the office-bearers, and directors of the company, bearing wands, moved from the marquee, and proceeded down the spiral staircase leading to the shaft. The scene at this moment was grand and exciting. As the leading party of the procession entered the west compartment of the Tunnel a loud cheer was raised, which rung and reverberated through the subterranean passage, and was echoed by the multitude without. The procession moved slowly on, and as it progressed through the arched passage, the repeated cheers which burst forth testified the excited feelings of the crowd, as they remembered the extraordinary circumstances under which they were placed, and their admiration of the skill and perseverance which had opened up to them a path so novel and so unprecedented. After passing under the river, and ascending and descending the Middlesex shaft, the procession retraced their steps by the eastern compartment of the Tunnel, thus performing a circuit of the whole work, and throwing it entirely open for the future transit of the public. Thus, then, was publicly opened the Thames Tunnel—was completed one of the greatest of the most great works of London. May it meet with that success as a commercial speculation, and attract that degree of interest as an object of scientific admiration, which the genius of its framer, the enterprise of its directors, and the liberality of the public (which enabled both of them to persevere in their operations) ought to attach to it!

THOMSON'S long-winded "Senson" has been superseded by an American poet, who dismisses the four quarters of the year in as many lines, thus—

Spring—showery, flowery, flowery.

Summer—happy, happy, happy.

Autumn—wheezy, sneezy, sneezy.

Winter—slippy, drippy, slippy.

SUMMARY OF THE MORTALITY IN THE METROPOLIS, For the Week ending April 1, 1843.

Causes of Death.	Number during the Week.	Weekly Average of the Five Weeks.	Weekly Average of the Five Weeks.
Contagious Diseases.	182	187	182
Brain and Nerves.	151	157	148
Lungs and Organs of Respiration.	357	322	268
Heart and Blood-Vessels.	14	21	18
Liver and Organs of Digestion.	52	56	62
Kidneys.	4	5	5
Childbed and Uterus.	9	10	9
Bones and Muscles.	7	6	6
Skin.	2	2	1
Uncertain Seat.	100	123	111
Old Age.	91	88	68
Violence, Privation, and Intemperance.	17	27	25
Total.	559	559	559
Males.	259	259	259
Females.	300	300	300
During the week.	995	1004	903
Population by last Census, 1,870,727.			

GENERAL REMARKS.

Causes of Death.	During the Week.	Average of Five Weeks.	Remarks.
Typhus.	50	44	15 above the average.
Small Pox.	10	30	20 below the average: 7 of the 10 very bad.
Diseases of Lungs; pneumonia and consumption.	246	251	15 above the average.

ABSTRACT OF METEOROLOGICAL JOURNAL KEPT AT THE ROYAL SOCIETY.

Mean height of Barometer..... 29.785 inches.
Rain weekly..... .088
Mean dryness..... 3° 4
Wind—N. 1 day; S. 8; S.W. 1; W. 2.—Rain on 2 days.
Temperature—Highest, 59°; Lowest, 50°; Daily Mean, 48°.

THE COMET.

"The interest felt by every one during the past week respecting this 'illustrious stranger' has not abated in the least. Some difference of opinion exists, however, as to the prevailing opinion. Sir John Herschel, Sir James South, and other astronomers, have no doubt whatever that the brilliant light seen in the western hemisphere is the tail of a comet, while Mr. Cooper, who is at present in Italy, affirms that he has actually seen its nucleus. Mr. Foster, an astronomer of Bruges, in Flanders, in a letter in the *Journal of Commerce & Travellers*, of the 23rd inst., says he has no doubt that the phenomenon is that of a comet. Mr. John Taylor, of Liverpool, in a letter published in one of the journals of that town, maintains the same opinion.

The comet has been very visible at Cheltenham, where it was first taken by some for a lunar rainbow. It was very plainly to be seen in the west, on two or three nights of last week.

A letter from Brighton says:—"This extraordinary visitor of our system has been very distinctly observed here during the past week, having been twice visible when not seen in London. On Friday night it was very clearly defined, and again on Saturday and Sunday evenings. On the latter occasion the tail extended from within six degrees of the horizon full five degrees beyond the star Kappa in Orion to the star, No. 6, in the left foot of Monoceros. It was higher in the heaven than before, the upper edge of the tail just touching Kappa Orionis. On Monday evening I began watching it as usual, and at half-past six observed a curious streak of reddish light running upward in a similar manner to that which we had, on former evenings, remarked to be taken by the comet. It was about three degrees above Sirius (the only star then discernible), and full ten degrees to the east. At a quarter to seven, however, the clouds gathered so thickly that nothing whatever could be seen in any quarter of the heavens. To-day promises better, and, perhaps, we may catch sight of the nucleus, which we have not yet discovered."

We have only now to advert to that fear which thousands, and among the number many well-educated people, never fail to experience at the appearance of these mysterious bodies. They have only, however, to dwell on one fact, and their apprehensions will, in a great measure, be dissipated. We allude to the extraordinary rarity of the substance composing the bodies of comets, and on which sufficient stress is not generally laid. Through the centre of Encke's comets stars of the fifth magnitude have been seen to shine. The comet that approached Saturn so near as that it was thought danger must have happened to that planet, was found to have produced no apparent effect on its motions; and comet of 1454, which passed so thickly over our earth and the moon, did not even disturb that small satellite. The rotation, then, of Halley's comet, or any other having caused the deluge, seems to be scarcely admissible; and startling as the assertion may appear, it is impressed on us, that since the gaseous substance of which comets are composed is many times rarer than the atmosphere we breathe—for the rays of no star could possibly permeate 50,000 miles of so dense a medium as the latter—even were a comet to approach within the attraction of the earth, so as to be drawn to its very embraces, the light and subtle fluid, so far from coming in contact with the solid portion of our sphere, or even disturbing our tides, would merely float and be diffused on the confines of our atmosphere, engirding, of course, that atmosphere completely, but neither obscuring our day, nor hiding the stars from our vision by night.

LAW AND JUSTICE.—The amount required for these services during the year ending the 31st of March next, are estimated as follows:—England, £39,000; Mint, prosecutions relating to coin, £11,300; expense of prosecutions for removal of coines, formerly paid from county-rates, £120,000; sheriff's expenses, England, Queen's Remembrancer's office, officers of the Court of Exchequer, &c., £18,185; Insolvent Debtors' Court, £13,368; Parkhurst prison, building and fittings, £9,895; ditto, establishment, £15,955; Millbank Penitentiary, establishment and repairs, £22,251; criminal lunatics at Bethlehem Hospital, £4,122; Inspector of Prisons and Prison Board, Scotland, £6,500; criminal prosecutions and law charges, Scotland, £19,535; sheriff's expenses, Scotland, £46,000; criminal prosecutions and law charges, Ireland, £91,449; expense of Dublin, £31,400; convict depot and constabulary branch, Dublin, £25,566; convicts at home, Bermuda and Gibraltar, £63,954; convict expenditure in New South Wales and Van Diemen's Land, £390,000. Total for 1842, £849,355; for 1841, it was £832,668; and for 1840, £810,220. In the expense for 1843, therefore, there was a saving of £75,667, as compared with 1841; and of £30,115, as compared with 1842.

JUSTI ROADS.—An Englishman having asked a son of Erin if the roads in Ireland were good, Pat replied "Yes, they are so fine that I wonder you do not import some of them into England: let me see, there's the road to love stained with roses; to matrimony through nettles; to honour through the canopy to prison; and to the undertaker's through physic." "Have you any road to preferment?" said the Englishman. "Yes, faith, we have, but it's the dirtiest road in the kingdom."

Government—(Applause and laughter). Whatever might have been my own views on this subject, I cannot but admit that a proposition coming from so influential and important a body as the merchants, bankers, and traders of this great metropolis, is entitled to, and should receive, the most mature consideration of her Majesty's Government.

(Renewed applause and laughter at the happy manner in which the honourable gentleman assumed the tone and delivery of the right honourable baronet at the head of the Government). And then, who knew, whether a commission or a select committee might not be appointed, to inquire how far it would be advisable to carry out the scheme? Oh, what great rejoicings there would then be among the monopolists!—that not one-half of the time that it was they were signing—(Hear, hear, hear). Now, with respect to a great scheme of Government emigration, there was one impediment which the propounders had probably not considered. It was his belief the people would not allow themselves to be transported. He could say of the people of Stockport, at least, his own borough, though they were as much distressed as they well could be, yet if it were proposed to them that they should be shipped off by the Government for some distant colony, they would say they had experienced so much of the tender mercies of that Government at home, that they would not place themselves at its mercy at the other side of the Atlantic—(Cheers). He did not stand there to offer a syllable of objection to voluntary emigration. There would always be people in a country like this whose tastes or circumstances would be impelling them to seek their fortunes in comparatively unexplored countries; but that emigration, which arose from a necessity to fly from law-created starvation at home, became transportation, and nothing less—(Cheers). If they were to hear of a case that had occurred somewhere in the Pacific Ocean, not quite so far as the antipodes, of an island not more than twenty-five miles from the continent, the people of which had become the slaves of a few who had invaded that island some 700 years ago, had possessed themselves of the soil, and passed laws to prevent the people from receiving food, except at prices fixed by their conquerors; if they were further informed that the people had grown so numerous that the land could no more afford them food, and that they were dying of starvation from wheat to oats, and from oats to roots that they dug up from under the ground; that they plied, meanwhile, the loom and the shuttle, and had invented machinery, such as had never been devised before; and that, nevertheless, this ingenious people were denied by their masters the privilege of exchanging the produce of their industry for food; if such a report were brought them by some philanthropic traveller—some missionary just returned from the South Pacific, and, if it were added that this dominant class were preparing to send this ingenious and industrious population to remote wastes and wildernesses, what would be said in London?—what would be said in Exeter-hall?—that hall of which the Anti-Corn-law League had been denied the use?—(Hear, hear). That Exeter-hall which was closed against them—(shame, shame), would have rung with the indignant appeals of philanthropists whose charity was denied by the anti-corn-law League. They would have seen crowds of elegantly clad dames bedewing their handkerchiefs with the tears of pity; the prelates and the clergy would have been there to call on the people to subscribe their money to send out armaments to rescue that unhappy, suffering population, from the hands of their oppressors—(Cheers). The case he had given them was the case of their own countrymen—(Cheers). Give that people of this country their natural and inherent right to exchange the productions of their own industry for the food grown in foreign countries, and there was not a man, woman, or child in England that might not be fed—that might not live as happily at home in their native land, as they could live in any country on the face of the earth—(Cheers). Take the case of his own unfortunate borough. Nearly one-half of the manufacturing establishments in that town were closed—and why? Not because the machinery was less productive than it was, but because the owners of the machinery had been denied the opportunity of exchanging the productions of that machinery for the productions of other country; it was because being unable to import, they were unable to export, and could not, therefore, give employment to the people depending on them. Yet where, on the face of the earth, would they find establishments so capable of producing food as those to which he alluded? They could, indeed, grow corn in those establishments; but give them a free access to the Mississippi valley, and there was not a child in Stockport that would not be able, by its tiny industry, to obtain corn from that valley—(Cheers). Who, he would ask, were the people whom it was proposed to send spinning and weaving in their native land. Nay, were those the men to go into Canada, to fell forests, and to sleep out night after night in the open air? Yet allow these men the free and fair exercise of their industry, and there was no country in which that industry could be made more productive than in their native land. Nay, the very charge brought against them by their enemies was that they produced too much; and yet this was the people who were now found idle and starving, and by way of a remedy it was proposed to send them to countries where their labour would be of no avail—(Cheers). But was there no class but the labouring poor who were suffering? He thought he saw some clerks and shopmen among the audience, and then this emigration scheme assured no good. In the last despatches published by the government relative to the state of emigrants in Canada and other colonies, such persons were warned, in the most urgent manner not to migrate to those colonies, for if they did they had nothing but disappointment to look for. Was there no anxiety and distress at home among the middle classes? But the merchants, bankers, and traders of the city of London did not propose to do anything that would relieve the middle classes, except to send away those who ought to be among their customers—(Cheers), and who, when they were allowed to employ their industry, would be better customers at home than they would ever be abroad—(Cheers). Now he had a plan to propose to the monopolists of the Government. Let them (the manufacturers) work in bond—(Hear, hear). Let the people of Lancashire be placed in bond; not that they should be bound to do any of the taxes to the Queen—no, they did not wish to escape the payment of one farthing that ought to go to the revenue of the country—but let a cordon be drawn round Lancashire, to satisfy the Duke of Buckingham that none of the demoralising corn grown in foreign countries should find its way into Cheshire or Lancashire, and then let them work in bond in Lancashire, paying every farthing of the Queen's taxes, but emancipated from the exactions of an oligarchy of monopolists—(Cheers). Let that scheme be carried out, and there would be no difficulty in obtaining abundant support for the whole population of Lancashire, densely peopled as it was, and so far as the corn was concerned, the increase of that population, that he believed it might go on increasing for many generations without the least inconvenience to the people themselves, if they were only put in bond and allowed to work away, free from the exactions of an oligarchy of monopolists—(Cheers). He would keep their customers at home for them, and that would be the only way in which they could restore the prosperity of the country. His plan, instead of dislocating society, would be to give employment to all classes, and thus to make all prosperous. Let them try how a little stimulus given to foreign trade, by the addition of a foreign corn trade, might have the effect of resuscitating trade at home. Would not that be better than sending the people abroad? But were there not also moral aspects in which they were called on to view this question? Man, it had been said, was the most difficult of created things to transplant from the place of his birth. To tear him away from his country was a heavier task than they rest upon the stoutest oak by its roots—(Cheers). Oh, did the men who signed that memorial ever go down to St. Katherine Dock and see an emigration ship about to start on its voyage?—(Hear, hear). Had they seen these poor emigrants sitting till the moment of departure on the stones, and then let them would fling to the last moment to the land of their birth?—(Hear, hear). Had they ever watched the countenances of those emigrants? they need not inquire what were their feelings; they would read their hearts in their faces had they ever seen them taking leave of their friends? If they had, they would not have talked lightly of a system of forced emigration. He (Mr. Cobden) had witnessed such scenes over and over again. He had seen venerable dames taking leave of their grandchildren, and he had seen a struggle between the mother and the grandmother to retain possession of a child—(Cheers). He had seen the grandmothers departing from the Mersey for the United States. The eyes of all on deck were directed back to the port whence they had started, and the last objects which met their gaze, as their native land receded from their view, were the tall banding warehouses, where (vehement cheering)—where under lock—was he going to say under the Queen's flag, and so far as the corn was concerned, the thousands of barrels of the finest flour of America—the only object that those poor wanderers were going to America in quest of—(vehement cheering). He was not accustomed to deal in sentiment. He had been described as a matter-of-fact man, one altogether without imagination.

He told them only of things which he had himself seen. He had witnessed these scenes myself, and he felt their force. And they (the League), who would enable those unhappy wretches to remain in comfort at home, were denounced as money-mongers and cold-hearted political economists! What would be the feelings of that audience, if, by a vote of the aristocracy, they could be doomed to emigration; not merely to a temporary tour of pleasurable excitement, but to quit their native shores for ever? Let them bear in mind that this was, next to death, the heaviest penalty which our penal code inflicted on criminals. How many folk associations would they not have to tear asunder? Let them bear in mind, that the working classes had as keen affections, eyes, and keener, too—(Cheers); and if they felt this, let this cry in favour of government emigration be as a tocsin to call on them all to make every effort to avert so dire a calamity—(Cheers). He had only now to repeat what they had already been told—and that was that they must not come to these meetings as to a place of idle amusement. The object they proposed to themselves was one that required great and continued personal efforts. Mere talking would do little, and he should be ashamed to stand before them if talking had not been the smallest modicum of the work by which he had sought to advance the cause—(Cheers). The movement was said to be a middle-class movement. He denied the definition, for he aimed at benefiting not any separate class, but the people at large; but if this was really a middle-class movement, he would entreat them to remember who the middle classes were. The middle classes returned the Legislature; the middle classes also were the great supporters of the newspaper press. They had it in their power to make their will known to Parliament, and they had it in their power, and he would call on them to exercise that power—to support only that part of the public press which supported them—(Vehement cheering). Let them do this with earnestness, and they might avert the necessity of transporting to distant lands the most valuable productions of her Majesty's dominions—the people; let them do this, and the people would yet be enabled to live at home in comfort, under the shade of their own vine, and of their own fig-tree—no man daring to make them afraid—(Vehement cheering).

The Chairman, in proposing a vote of thanks to the four gentlemen who had spoken, took the opportunity of exhorting the meeting to look carefully at the newspapers, and selecting that which had the best report of the proceedings, to purchase it, and circulate copies through the length and breadth of the land. By so doing they would promote the action of this great question in its results even beyond what could be effected by crowded meetings like the present—(Cheers). The vote of thanks was then carried amidst universal acclamations, and the vast meeting dissolved at ten o'clock.

GEORGE WILSON, ESQ.



We here present the public with the portrait and a brief sketch of George Wilson, Esq., chairman of the National Anti-Corn-law League. In our last number we gave a sketch of each member of the council, and may here repeat part of what we then said of Mr. Wilson, namely, that he is "a gentleman eminently qualified for his position, by the quickness and soundness of his decisions, and the ready tact by which he brings all the other members to agree with him." The principle element of success in the working of the League hitherto has been its harmony. In selecting the various committees, and appointing to each individual his duty, the chairman has paid special regard to personal abilities and temper. Those who are able and eager to work in carrying out matters of detail, and who care little for displaying themselves in public, are made use of for the purpose to which nature and habits of business have adapted them. But the greatest number of the councillors are persons fitted naturally and educationally to appear in public or remain in private—to speak or be silent—to sit on a low seat, or on a high—to follow or lead—to give orders themselves, or obey the orders of others—and therefore, harmony prevails, and enormous labour is accomplished without bustle or confusion. The heaviest labour of the League is that of which the world knows and hears least. Mr. Wilson is a gentleman between thirty and thirty-five years of age; is five feet seven or eight inches high, rather robust, but not corpulent; in manners complacent. He is connected with a starch manufactory, but is possessed of private property, which renders him independent of business.

To this we may add, that he is a member of the town-council of Manchester, and has distinguished himself among those who struggled to obtain a charter of incorporation for that town; and subsequently, among all who, in the corporation or out of it, have exerted themselves for the public good. He enjoys the unqualified confidence of all with whom he is associated. Those who attend the meetings of the League at Drury-lane Theatre and elsewhere will occasionally hear such men as Mr. Cobden say that "our chairman, being despotic, has ordered me" or "them, or some one, to do so and so." This allusion to despotism is not altogether a figure of speech, but it requires some qualification. As before said, Mr. Wilson is a gentleman of mild manners; he is, in fact, subdued and unassuming to a degree that makes him appear, seeing him simply as an individual, incapable of holding a position in public controversy of any eminence; and so far he is the last man to be met, in a journey of a thousand miles, whom you would suspect of being a despot. But his power rests on the quickness, the coolness, and the rectitude of his judgment, to which qualifies every

member of the League pays homage, because they see him always ready to give advice, and find him always right in his counsel.

The present writer visited Manchester a few weeks previous to the great banquet which was recently celebrated in the Great Free Trade Hall there. He found Mr. Wilson engaged in the Council room in the morning each day at ten. On his left sat Mr. Hickien, the indefatigable and intelligent Secretary. Five hundred or a thousand letters daily had to be opened and read. Various parties were always doing so, and handling all those requiring the Chairman's attention, and they were many, to the table before him. While this was going on, other business was in process of transaction. Members of the Council were giving in their reports of the committees of which they were chairmen or secretaries. These committees were sometimes as many as twelve in number; as, for instance, the printing committee, the tract distribution committee, the registration committee, the subscription card committee, the lecturing committee, the correspondence committee, the banquet arrangements committee, the finance committee, and such like, some permanent and some temporary. The business of these committees was seen going on—motions were made, votes taken, and minutes recorded, all through the Chairman, while he was seemingly engaged on other business, reading letters received, writing letters to go away, and attending to suggestions or making suggestions to others.

At first sight to a visitor there, the whole looked what this sketch may indicate, uncontrolled confusion. But a brief acquaintance with the Council-room of the League and its members showed that the whole was harmonious industry, as regular, as incessant in motion, hour after hour, as the multitudinous wheels that whirled in the great factories of which those present were, for the most part, proprietors and directors.

When the bustle of the early part of the day was somewhat abated, Mr. Wilson might be seen sitting and superintending the creation of the great Free-trade Hall, which, by-the-by, was his and Mr. Alderman Brooke's joint speculation—the other members of the League and the general fund having no connection with its expense. An hour or two to dinner, and the superintendence of his own affairs, might be taken by him in the afternoon, but this not always; and even then he would be found by a visitor writing letters on the business of the League, at home. At five o'clock he was again at the League rooms, and from that hour up to six the members, who had been there in the morning, and who had been for a few hours attending to their business on "Changes, in their warehouses, or at their factories, all of them having large establishments, were again associated around the council table, with the London morning papers, just then received, and cups of tea and coffee with muffins and bread-and-butter, before them. When tea was over, they again proceeded to business as separate committees; and, as at that time the preparations for the banquet were added to all the other business, Mr. Wilson, who was a member of every committee, and had his eye on every man, and everything, would be found engaged in some department or other until a late hour, frequently till midnight. But, as previously remarked, through the harmony that prevailed, prodigious labour was accomplished without bustle or confusion.

Mr. Wilson is a phenomenon. His own head and character are a fine exemplification of the science.

THE COURT.

On Monday, Prince Albert, attended by General Sir E. Bouverie, visited the Gaiety, at the Baker-street Bazaar, and expressed himself highly delighted with the ice and the beauty of the surrounding Alpine scenery. He went upon the ice, and stated his intention of coming again at an early period to skate. He afterwards honoured Madame Tussaud's exhibition with a visit.

The Queen Dowager has intimated, through Lord Howe, her intention of patronising and honouring with her presence the Fancy Fair, to be held in the Painted Hall of the Royal Hospital, Greenwich, in commemoration of Lord Howe's glorious victory over the French on the 1st of June, 1794. The proceeds are to be devoted to the funds of the Shipwrecked Mariners' Society.

On Tuesday the Queen held a Court at Buckingham Palace. Lord Hill had an audience, to deliver the insignia of the Order of the Bath worn by his late uncle, General Lord Hill. He delivered the insignia. Lord's gold stick of office as Colonel of the Royal Regiment of Horse Guards. The Marquis of Anglesea had an audience of the Queen, and received from her his gold stick of office as Colonel of the Royal Horse Guards. The Duke of Wellington, Commander-in-Chief, was present at the ceremony. His Grace had an audience of the Queen. Her Majesty was attended by Viscount Sydney, Lord in Waiting, and Captain Meynell, Groom in Waiting.

HIS MAJESTY'S FIRST LEVEE.—Prince Albert held the first levee of the season at St. James's Palace, on Wednesday afternoon, as *locum tenens* for Her Majesty. The levee was well but not very numerously attended. His Royal Highness arrived at St. James's from Buckingham Palace shortly after two o'clock. Prince George and Prince Edward, of Saxe-Weimar, Grenadier Guards, were present at the levee.

The Queen will hold a Privy Council on Monday next at Buckingham Palace.

The King of Hanover is expected to arrive on a visit to this country about the middle of May, orders having been received to prepare his apartments in the Ambassador's Court for his reception by that period. The King is expected to remain in this country six weeks, the government of the kingdom during his absence will be deputed to the Council of State, of which Major-General Prince Bernhard, of Solms-Braunfels, is President.

At the Levee, on Wednesday, Sir Eardley Wilmot was presented, on being appointed Lieutenant-General of the Devon's Land, by Lord Stanley, Commander-in-Chief. W. Hill, R.N., was presented, on being appointed Lieutenant-Governor of the Forts and Settlements on the Gold Coast, by Lord Stanley.

On Thursday, the Crown Prince of Weteremberg landed from the Netherlands steamboat *Baltic*, Captain Dunlop, after a favourable passage from Rotterdam of twenty-four hours.

PRINCESS NICOLAUS ESTERHAZY.—On Thursday morning the Earl and Countess of Jersey received the intelligence of the accomplishment of the Princess Nicholas Esterhazy. She was confined on the 21st inst., of a son and heir, and when the accounts left Vienna, both she and the infant were doing quite well.

SIR JOHN CAM HOBHOUSE, Bart., M.P., arrived last week at Paris, from Naples, where he stayed a few weeks on leaving Rome. Sir John is expected to return home next week.

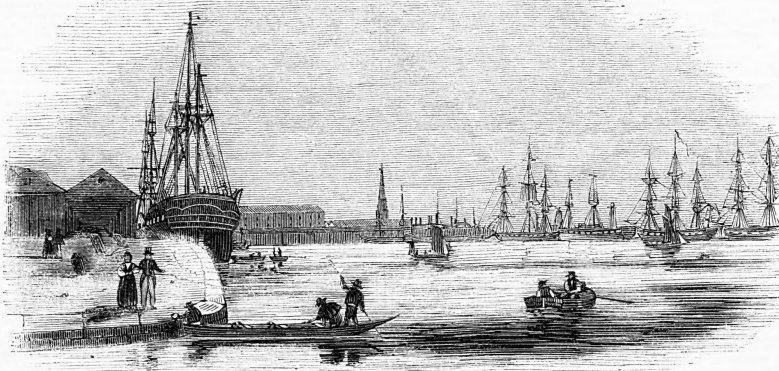
THE HEALTH OF HER MAJESTY.—We are happy to state that Her Majesty continues to be in the enjoyment of excellent health; and notwithstanding the proximity of the event which is looked forward to with so much interest by all the loyal subjects of our beloved Queen, the Princess and Prince Albert are daily to be seen walking in the gardens of Buckingham Palace as early as eight o'clock in the morning. The Prince of Wales and the Princess Royal are also in the enjoyment of robust health; but during the prevalence of the present cold easterly winds their Royal Highnesses are not allowed to go out, and the picture gallery is appropriated to them as the place of their infatigable exertions, instead of the open grounds of the palace. Their Royal Highnesses have to be dressed and to appear every morning by nine. Both Her Majesty and the Prince are remarkable for their early hours.—*Globe*.

The source of the Marquis of Northampton, as President of the Royal Society, which was to have been held on Saturday, has been postponed in consequence of the death of the Dowager Marchioness.

Lord Brougham gave a grand dinner on Sunday to a distinguished circle, including Sir Robert Peel, Duke of Wellington, Lord Ashburton, the Lord Chancellor, Earl of Jersey, Earl of Essex, Sir W. Follett, Hon. Sydney Herbert, Colonel North, Mr. Brougham, Commissioner Phillips, &c.

THE EAST INDIA DOCKS.

THE LONDON GAZETTES.



These docks were the third formed in London; and profiting by the experience already gained, the directors had them made superior to either of the others. They were commenced in 1800, and completed in 1806, the site chosen having been that of Blackwall. Exclusively confined to the trade of the East India Company; they consist of an import basin of eighteen acres, and of an export basin of about nine acres, both constructed to receive ships of great burden. The extent of warehouse room is small, as most of the commodities unloaded here are conveyed immediately to the Company's warehouses in the different parts of London. The tea, and the more valuable goods, are conveyed in covered waggons, secured by locks, along the Commercial road, which has been lately made to communicate with these and the other docks. The capital of the company is £500,000, and a

dividend of 4 per cent. is paid. The directors of the Company have the chief management of these docks, and the ships are loaded and discharged by their servants, not the crews. The regulations to prevent fire and plunder are very stringent, and, at the same time, most efficacious. The East India Company—for whose better accommodation these docks were established—was formed as a commercial body, in 1600, and first obtained a charter from Queen Elizabeth, in 1600. Although in subsequent periods the Company acquired and extended vastly, their territorial power and their commercial character remained to them until it was taken away by the law of 1835. They are now, therefore, a kind of Board governing British India, under the superintendence of the Board of Control chiefly, but with some power still left in the hands of directors, chosen by the proprietors of India Stock; whose dividends are guaranteed to them by the faith of Parliament.

SCOTLAND.

■ The Earl of Moray has postponed the collecting of his Candelmas rents, on his estates in the north, for six weeks, in order that his tenantry may, in these dull times, have every advantage of bringing their produce to market.

■ EXTENSIVE ROBBERY OF JEWELLERY.—Information has been received at the metropolitan police-station, Great Scotland-yard, of the following robbery of jewellery, &c.:—Stolen from an ironmonger's shop, in Glasgow, the following property—viz., 140 gold finger-rings, various patterns, set with pearls, garnets, and other precious stones; 50 red gold finger-rings, various patterns; 150 gold brooches, set with amethysts, garnets, topaz, and other precious stones; 30 fancy brooches, 10 fine gold watch seals, four pair jet Caricorum earrings, 12 pair coral ditto, 20 pair cornelian ditto, 10 pair jet ditto; 8 pair fine coloured ditto, solid gold, of great value; 200 pair of other earrings, 6 French neck-chains, a silver lever watch, engine-turned, No. 1,183; a small ditto, No. 5,583; three silver Highland brooches, and various other articles of great value. On the information reaching London, a number of the "detective force" were dispatched to endeavour to trace out the guilty parties.

■ ANOTHER MADMAN.—A person of the name of McColeman, whose insane vagaries would appear to have fixed upon the Premier of England, made his appearance on Tuesday in the Sheriff Clerk's office here. His business, he said, was to have two clerks to go up with him to Sir Robert Peel on important business. The poor man talked on connectedly on different subjects with the persons in the office, but always ended with something about going up to London to Sir Robert. He insisted also upon his being the father of M'Naughten, and threatened, if his wishes were not complied with, to make skeletons of all and sundry. Seeing there was danger to be apprehended from a person of this frame of mind going at large, the parties in the office had him enticed into a noddly for the alleged purpose of getting another clerk to answer his requirements (he being satisfied with the physiognomy of only one in the place at the time), who lived at the Townhead. Having succeeded in this device, he was safely conveyed to the Lunatic Asylum, in which place he is now lodged, at the instance of the Sheriff of Lanarkshire, who granted an order for his detention. On inquiring into his circumstances, it turns out that he is a shoemaker, and had at one time served in the army, for which he has a pension of 9d. per day. It seems that he had been wounded on the head, and since then has never been rightly settled.—*Glasgow Argus*.

■ SHAWLS TO THE QUEEN.—Some time since, Messrs. Roxburgh, of Paisley, having prepared two shawls of a novel style of pattern for Messrs. Proudford, Brand, Thomson, and Co., of Glasgow, forwarded a description of them to her Grace the Duchess of Buccleuch, soliciting her influence with her Majesty, to accept a shawl of each pattern. Her Grace promptly responded to the request, and stated, that although her Majesty did not receive presents, she was desirous to see the shawls referred to; they were accordingly despatched to London, with the prices affixed, and on Thursday a note was received, stating that her Majesty had kept both shawls. One of the shawls is named "the Eastern Triumph," and is composed of a splendid procession in the midst of oriental scenery. The other, "the Prince of Wales," has for the leading figure the crest of three leopards surrounded with wreaths, the embazoned shields of England, Scotland, Ireland, &c. The "Eastern Triumph Shawl" is altogether a most beautiful specimen of manufacturing ingenuity and skill. The elephants, the camels, the long processions, with infinite variety of dresses, winding their way among pagodas and groves, transport the beholder to eastern climes, and might almost lead him to believe that he was positively a spectator of the nuptial pageant of a nabob's daughter. The shawls are fabricated of the finest and richest kinds of silk and wool, and are choice articles, even independent of the exquisite and ingenious workmanship which they exhibit.—*Paisley Advertiser*.

■ The Scotch have been always considered particularly provident about their funerals. A poor woman in the village of —, had lent her neighbour, the carpenter, some money, but finding him quite unable to pay her, she obligingly consented to take the value of his debt in coffins for herself and all her children. They were accordingly each measured and provided without delay; but she was heard often to complain that the children had quite outgrown theirs.

■ Messrs. Wright, Paul Bedford, and Wieland, with Mr. Barker, the tenor singer, are engaged at the Princess's theatre, and will appear at Easter.

■ According to a Madrid print, Tamburini is about to proceed to that capital.

■ EXTRAORDINARY QUICK PASSAGE.—The General Steam Navigation Company's steamship *Princess Royal*, Capt. J. W. Morris, arrived on Sunday evening, at 9 o'clock, with passengers in the unprecedented short time of 26 hours.

TUESDAY, MARCH 28.

BANKRUPT.—THOMAS EDWARD ROWLEY, Oxford-street, draper.—ISAAC WILSON, Tillicham, Essex, draper.—EDWARD PERKINS, Bishopsgate-street, Without, corn-dealer.—CHARLES GILBY, Greenwich, Kent, wine-merchant.—JOHN HERBERT GLOVER, Brompton-street.—ROBERT COVENEY, Dorsetshire, cabinet-maker.—SAMUEL TEAGUE, Birmingham, builder.—JOHN TATTERSALL, Old Lyons, Lancashire, coal dealer.—MAURICE SEARY, Sandwich, fishmonger.—STEPHEN THOMAS, York, victualler.—JOHN PLEASANCE, Wall-upon-Beacon, Yorkshire, builder.—RICHARD BLACKBURN and JOHN BLACKBURN, Morley, Yorkshire, cloth manufacturers.—JONATHAN BOWMAN, Carlisle, Cumberland, woolen-dresser.—JOHN HENDRICKSON, Greenisle, Durham, wool merchant.—JOHN FLETCHER, Maryport, Cumberland, ball manufacturer.—HENRY YEATMAN, Lochalade, Gloucestershire, chymist.—JAMES DUFFIELD, Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire, druggist.

FRIDAY, MARCH 31.

BANKRUPTCY SUPERSEDED.—A. GREGORY, linendraper, Dover.—BANKRUPT.—E. HADLEY, chemist and druggist, John-street-road.—E. MILES, ironmonger, Bridge-house-place, Newington-causeway, Surrey.—J. WHITTING, carpenter, Seckford-street, Clerkenwell, Middlesex.—T. HUTCHINS, common carrier, Andover, Hampshire.—T. MALCOLM, shopkeeper, Lincoln's-inn-fields.—T. W. COLEMAN, coach proprietor, John-street, Pentonville.—H. KAY, victualler, Chiswell-street.—ED. M. HUTTON, road porter, Hingwood, Hampshire.—W. SOUTHALL, miller, Birchills, Staffordshire.—E. F. SMITH and R. M. BRYANT, carpenters, Bristol.—J. CLAPHAM, licensed victualler, Leeds.—R. SMITH, attorney, Worcester.—R. YOUNG-HUBBARD, brickmaker, Nantun.—T. H. THOMSON, merchant.

IRELAND.

■ THE QUEEN'S VISIT TO IRELAND.—The 11th Hussars (Prince Albert's regiment) are under orders for Dublin, where they are to be stationed. During the ensuing summer, Dublin will be the headquarters of two cavalry regiments. This arrangement is made, in order to have a sufficiency of cavalry available for the escorts and additional duty consequent on the Queen's visit to Dublin, which is now fixed to take place in August next. Considerable alterations and improvements have been for some time going on at the Vice-regal Lodge, in the Phoenix Park, for the reception of the Queen and her husband. It is generally supposed that the 72nd Highlanders will form Her Majesty's body guard.

■ Richard Beresford Cane, Esq., is appointed receiver of the constabulary force, in Ireland, vice Richard Kane, Esq., resigned.

■ ASSISTANCE TO THE POOR.—The tranquillity has been established in the county of Waterford, chiefly through the intervention of some of the landlords, who have come forward to pay the poor-rate.

■ There never were so few Irish members in Parliamentary attendance as at present.

■ SAM GRAY.—At the Monaghan assizes, Sam Gray, the notorious Orangeman, was again capitally indicted, for shooting a process server, in November, 1840, and again discharged on bail, the jury not being able to agree.

■ ARREST OF A MURDERER.—STRANGE COINCIDENCE.—On the 7th ult., head-constable David Rankin, stationed at Dromore, near Omagh, in the county of Tyrone, arrested a man passing through Dromore, on suspicion of being the man charged in the *Hue and Cry* with the murder of John Dawson, at Ayr, in Scotland, in the month of November last. The person said his name was William Smith, native of Dublin. He was fully committed to Omagh gaol, but was discharged on the 17th, by order of Chief Justice Doherty. On leaving the prison, however, so strong was the head-constable's conviction that the man was the person described as the murderer, that he again arrested him, and had him a second time committed. This was most fortunate for Scotland, and out of thirty-four prisoners turned out in the gaol-yard next morning, in the prison dress, the officer at once identified the man so strangely arrested, as the person charged with the murder. His name is William Murphy, a native of Omagh, in the county of Tyrone. A £200 reward was offered for this man's apprehension.

■ LOSS OF THE EARL ROBIN STEAMER.—The Cork papers detail the particulars of the loss of this steamer, from Cork to London, having on board a very large and valuable cargo, consisting principally of cured provisions, a large deck freight of live sheep, &c. The vessel sprung a leak and was run ashore, near Foreshore, not far from Ballycotton, near Cork. The country people had plundered the wreck very freely, and there was no chance of saving the vessel.

■ The Cork city grand jury have memorialised the Treasury for a railway communication between London and Dublin, by Holyhead.

■ The Rev. Dr. McHale, of Tuam, has initiated nine monks into a new monastery at Errow, Mayo.

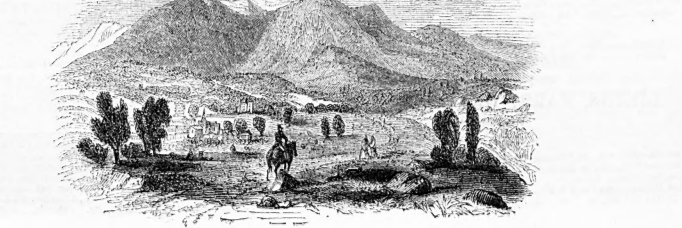
■ THE POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—Amongst the lectures recently delivered at this institution, there has been one on the art of plate-glass making, and the application of chemistry to the perfection of its manufacture. A great many splendid specimens of glass, in the various stages of the process, supplied by the kindness and liberality of the Union Plate Glass Company, from the extensive works at St. Helen's, in Lancashire, were exhibited, and illustrated the lecture. The subject, which, in a national and commercial point of view, is one of very great interest, independently of its scientific relations, was treated in a methodical and proper manner, so as to be intelligible to the capacities and previous knowledge of the audience. A history of the art, from its earliest introduction—the manufacture of the pure alkali, the importation of the white and made use of, and the progress of the invention till its present perfection, were all described. The melting, casting, rolling, grinding, polishing, and clearing of the plates was described. Models of the crucibles and casting-pots were shown, and, in fact, nothing was omitted by which a clear comprehension of the art could be conveyed, or the lecture made interesting. Dr. Ryan, who delivered the lecture, paid a well-merited compliment to the Union Plate Glass Company for their ready assistance in furnishing the specimens, &c., by which he illustrated his lecture.

DR. SOUTHEY'S RESIDENCE.



■ NOTHING strikes the mind with more awe than a visit to the scenes where the great have dwelt. The genius loci pervades each spot. Greta Hall, near Keswick, of which the above is a correct view, was the residence of Dr. Southey, for the latter half of his life. There he composed some of his poetry—the "Tale of Paragony"—"The Lay of the Laureate." "The Field of Waterloo," and many of his admirable ballads; and there were written nearly all—of those prose compositions (history, biography, polemics, and

criticism) which have established for him a reputation not inferior to any ever obtained by a man of letters in England. In this beautiful residence, abstracted from much communion with the world, Southey's life placidly glided on—not undisturbed by the cares which visit the home of even the happiest mortals—and his literary labours were pursued with a constancy and perseverance which eclipsed even the marvel of Scott's wondrous productivity. At length, his mind was afflicted by over-work, and, about four years ago, his faculties gave way. He died on Tuesday, the 21st ult., and we may not expect that his place in literature will soon be filled.



MARRIAGES.

THE YOUNG LADIES' WORK-TABLE and EMBROIDERY-FRAME MANUAL

Containing Explanations of the various Stitches in Plain and Fancy Needlework, Knitting, Netting, Crochet, and Tatting, Embroidery in Muslin, &c. &c. price 3s. 6d. cloth, gilt edges.

CLARK'S LADIES' HAND-BOOKS.
Imperial 32mo, gilt edges, price 1s. each:—
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In a few days,
CLARK'S PHYSICAL HAND-BOOKS.
Imperial 32mo, gilt edges, 1s. each:—
1. The Violin. 2. The Flute.
Others in preparation.
H. G. CLARK & CO., 66, Old Bailey.

DOMESTIC HAND-BOOKS for INVALIDS, together price 2s. 6d., by post 3s. 6d., or, in three parts, 1s. each, by post, 1s. 6d.

THE STOMACH, BLADDER, and RECTUM—their Diseases and Treatment, comprising especially indigestion, nervousness, and diet, bladder and urinary derangements, and constipation and hemorrhoids, with numerous engravings, &c. By R. L. CULVERWELL, M.D., Member of the Royal College of Surgeons, &c. &c. &c. 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st, 32nd, 33rd, 34th, 35th, 36th, 37th, 38th, 39th, 40th, 41st, 42nd, 43rd, 44th, 45th, 46th, 47th, 48th, 49th, 50th, 51st, 52nd, 53rd, 54th, 55th, 56th, 57th, 58th, 59th, 60th, 61st, 62nd, 63rd, 64th, 65th, 66th, 67th, 68th, 69th, 70th, 71st, 72nd, 73rd, 74th, 75th, 76th, 77th, 78th, 79th, 80th, 81st, 82nd, 83rd, 84th, 85th, 86th, 87th, 88th, 89th, 90th, 91st, 92nd, 93rd, 94th, 95th, 96th, 97th, 98th, 99th, 100th, 101st, 102nd, 103rd, 104th, 105th, 106th, 107th, 108th, 109th, 110th, 111th, 112th, 113th, 114th, 115th, 116th, 117th, 118th, 119th, 120th, 121st, 122nd, 123rd, 124th, 125th, 126th, 127th, 128th, 129th, 130th, 131st, 132nd, 133rd, 134th, 135th, 136th, 137th, 138th, 139th, 140th, 141st, 142nd, 143rd, 144th, 145th, 146th, 147th, 148th, 149th, 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EXTRAORDINARY PHENOMENON.—When the *Anne* *Bridson*, which arrived at Liverpool from Valparaiso last week after a quick passage of 81 days, was off the river Plate, on her homeward voyage, the captain and crew suffered the greatest inconvenience from the state of the atmosphere, which for two days was so foetid and oppressive as to make it difficult for them to breathe. Nothing was seen or heard which could enable the captain or crew to account for this unhealthy and oppressive state of the atmosphere; but the probability is that the foetid smell arose from a submarine discharge of gas or vapour, a phenomenon which has frequently accompanied earthquakes and volcanic eruptions, and which, no doubt, gave rise to the innumerable stories preserved in history and tradition, in prose and verse, respecting the exhalations from Lake Avernus, near Naples, and from the Dead Sea. The classical scholar will at once call to mind Virgil's fine description of this phenomenon as to the Lake Avernus, and we see that Lord Francis Egerton, who visited the shores of the Dead Sea last year, does not altogether discredit the opinion, that the exhalations from that sea are still injurious to life. We feel little doubt that the painful sensations experienced on board the *Anne* were produced by some sudden discharge of mephitic gas under the waters of the ocean, at the point which this vessel was then traversing.

ANOTHER ATMOSPHERICAL PHENOMENON.—The *Echo de Vesone*, of Perigueux, of 22nd instant, has the following:—"Yesterday evening, about half-past seven o'clock, several persons of our town witnessed an extraordinary appearance in the heavens, a little above the horizon. It was that of a magnificent cross, appearing to the eye 50 metres in length and 30 in width, perfectly defined, with its head towards the north. It was visible for half an hour, and astonished all who saw it. We have this account from ocular witnesses whose veracity we cannot doubt."

FASHIONS.

MY DEAR SIR,—Paris, the city of luxury, of idleness, and of prodigality, is also the city of misery and indigence. Yet, but for the luxury and prodigality which prevails, there would be more misery and want now exist. Therefore, the money expended upon the caprices of fashion contributes to the support of the industries. Pleasant is it to know, while Beauty is arraying herself in the splendid or graceful dresses and ornaments of the mode that she is at the same time, making glad the hearts of the many who are gaining subsistence from the occupations which her artificial wants have created.

The fashionable materials for dresses, this week, are the *pekins d'été*, beautiful in colour and design, the *reps encrochere*, which make admirable *trépanoles*, and the *mousselines brocées*, well adapted for travelling costume.

The newest dresses are à *Manchés Grégoires*, close-fitting the figure, with the bodice high, sleeves short, and a sprinkling of loops and buttons.

We have had an avalanche of magnificent cachemeres, at extremely low prices.

The corsage, in evening dresses, runs to a point; the sleeves are short, and the graceful trimming is of lace.

Bonnets are not so small as they have been. The hair is worn as plain as at your English court—none but ladies of "a certain age" wearing jewels.

Flowers are sometimes worn, in full dress. MARIE.



CANADA COMPANY.—The Annual General Court of the proprietors was held on Wednesday, at the house of the Company, St. Helen's-place, for the purpose of receiving the directors' report, and of electing four directors and one auditor in conformity with the provisions of the charter. Mr. Charles Franks, the governor, having taken the chair, read a statement, from which it appeared that the sale of lands on the company's estates, effected during the past year, amounted to 37,477 acres, at an average price of 12s. 11s. per acre currency; and that in the Huron tract, 28,127 acres had been disposed of at the rate of 11s. 7d. per acre, giving a total of 65,604 acres, and producing, together with other sales, a net profit of £66,270. The expenses of management in London, amounted to £3,350; and in Canada, to £5,070. The total on the debit side of the account was £28,650; and upon the credit side, £69,590, leaving a balance in favour of the company on the year's operations, of £40,930, being an increase of £11,000 upon the profits of the previous year. This was principally to be attributed to the progress which had been made in the Huron tract, where the sales of land had increased from 8,000 to upwards of 72,000 acres, and the population, by an addition of 1849 settlers, possessing a capital of £21,000. Fresh settlements of large bodies of emigrants, from Eastern Canada, and elsewhere, were likely to take place in the present year; and the only thing now wanting to promote the ultimate prosperity of the colony was the opening of the British market to the staple commodities of Canada. The report having been received and adopted, the chairman stated, in reply to a proprietor, that £42,000 was still owing for bills unpaid, the whole of which was secured upon property. After a recommendation from Mr. Poynder, that the expenses in Canada of £5,000 per annum should be reduced as much as possible, and an intimation from Sir J. Easthope, that the directors were desirous of carrying out the suggestion, Mr. Poynder complained that he and his brother auditors had not, though they had frequently applied, been able to see the company's accounts as forwarded from Canada. The secretary, on being appealed to, stated that no such application, to his knowledge, had been made by Mr. Poynder, but that the accounts were always on the table for inspection. Mr. Poynder reiterated his statement; and, after a somewhat warm discussion on the subject, Mr. R. Biddulph, Mr. J. Gooden, and Mr. M. T. Smith, and Mr. A. Stewart, were re-elected directors, and Mr. Poynder and Mr. E. Gordon auditors of the company. A vote of thanks to the chairman, directors, and auditors then terminated the proceedings; and it was announced that the dividend on the profits for the year would be declared at the meeting in July.

On the 18th ult., the famous foreign banker, Baron Stregitz, died at St. Petersburg, said to have been immensely wealthy.

UNFORTUNATE APROPOS.—At the dinner given by the judges to the magistrates on the first day of the late assizes, after the cloth had been removed, the health of the judges was drunk. Lord Denman was returning thanks, and saying how happy he and his brother Patteson were to come into the county of Kent, when, unfortunately, the worthy chairman of the quarter sessions and another worthy magistrate had, at the moment, brought an animated discussion on Mesmerism to a climax, and the former, striking the table, vehemently exclaimed, "They are the biggest humbugs on earth!" The room was convulsed with laughter, and none enjoyed the joke more than the distinguished judges.—*Canterbury Journal*.

THE DUKE.—A correspondent of the *Morning Chronicle* gives the following characteristic anecdote of his Grace of Wellington:—"An officer of the 7th dragon guards applied for leave to his grace to exchange upon half-pay, the regiment being under sailing orders for the Cape of Good Hope. The duke merely turned down the leaf of the letter of application, and wrote this laconic answer, characteristic of his decision and promptitude, upon the reverse,—"Sail or sell."

Without entering into the disputed question of the benefits or injuries that may arise from the use of tobacco, we think it will be admitted on all sides that its introduction into this country has been fraught with incalculable advantage to our commerce and our revenue.



The excise bears testimony, in a pecuniary point of view, to its value; the docks corroborate the enormous sale that exists; the number of cigar shops and tobacconists throughout the kingdom, prove how general is the demand for this plant in every class; and the estimation in which it is held may be deduced from the fact of nearly three-fourths of the population of the world indulging in its moderate use as a luxury, and in most cases as a necessary item in the amount of their daily expenditure. The mode of cultivating tobacco, and the advantages arising from its growth on certain soils, have been so repeatedly brought before the notice of the public in different publications, that it would be a work of supererogation upon our parts to repeat facts with which we may be allowed to presuppose our readers are already acquainted. Our notice would even extend beyond the prescribed limits did we even mention the brands chiefly esteemed in the London markets—so numerous would be the names we should be called upon to enumerate. Cigars, which originated in the first instance, doubtless, through the absence of proper materials through which to inhale the dried shreds, have been brought to their present perfection through the indefatigable industry of the manufacturers in the West India Islands, and though now extensively imported into this country, were for a long period chiefly confined to Spain. The Manilla, the Chinsurah, and other cheroots, take their designations from those islands where they were first produced, and the distinctive flavours of all cigars are mainly attributable to the different modes of manufacture adopted with them. Snuffs attained their zenith of popularity during the early part of this century, when England was under the sway of the Regent, afterwards George IV., whose example in this as in other snuff-taking was a habit. The system of judiciously blending the various kinds of tobacco used for the purpose has multiplied the different titles of snuffs to an indefinite extent, each inventor claiming the privilege of bestowing on the preparation his own patronymic.

Tobacco is said to have been first imported into Europe by Sir Francis Drake about 1580, and to have derived its name from Tabaco, a province of Yucatan, where it was first found. It received the name of Nicotiana from John Nicot, then ambassador from Francis II. to Portugal, who brought it from Lisbon, and presented some portion to Catherine de Medicis. Sir Walter Raleigh is said to have first introduced it in England about the year 1586, from which time it has been in general request.

The manufacture of cigars forms one of the most important articles of commerce throughout every dependency of this country and the continent. Some thousand artisans are annually employed even in London for the manufacture of the raw material. Some idea may be gained of the extraordinary quantity of tobacco annually imported into this country, when we state, that from a recent parliamentary return it has been estimated at more than a million of pounds annually. A great portion of this is consumed in the metropolis for the purpose of supplying the various snuffs and cigars which are purchased daily in this modern Babylon.

FONTENELLE.—This writer reached the very advanced age of ninety-nine years, and continued his literary pursuits to the last. Lord Orrey, in a letter written from Marston, near Glastonbury, very beautifully said, "Fontenelle, like our neighbouring thorn, blossoms in the winter of his days." Voltaire pronounced him to be the most universal genius of the age of Louis XIV. A person of quality called on him, and found him in very ill humour. "What's the matter?" said the nobleman. "The case is this," said the philosopher, "I have only one servant, and I am waited on as badly as you who have twenty."

AN AMERICAN EDITOR'S DEFINITION OF A NEWSPAPER.—"We are to-day compelled, in consequence of the misapprehension of many of our readers, to define what a newspaper is. It is (and let those in arrears for the last quarter, mark well!) a luxury, which those who cannot afford to stump down for in advance, or pay promptly on the day their quarter is up, should never for a moment think of indulging in."

Last week a letter addressed "To the 25th of March, Foley-place, London," and entrusted to the general post, reached its destination, viz., Lady Day, for whom it was intended.

The mania—if mania it can be called—for smoking is here decidedly on the increase; and if precedent can be taken from the number of celebrated men who were habituated to this practice, the custom is certainly not without authority. The first we are acquainted with—as we have before stated—Sir Walter Raleigh whose partiality for this narcotic weed may have induced in a great measure those day dreams in which he indulged himself respecting the *El Dorado*, with which he deluded his followers. We may picture to ourselves the mighty mind of Sir Walter evolving its strange conceptions in the wreaths of smoke which emanated from the bowl of his Indian meerschaum—fashioning the ideal from the real, and shadowing forth these sunny dreams of future fame and fortune which were never, alas! to be realised. We may recall a glimpse of the noble adventurer, sailing dreamily down the Thames in his gilded yacht, moodily revolving in his brain the favours which his fair patron, the Royal Elizabeth, was then showering upon him, and see him in our mind's eye soothing his distempered fancy with the plant of his own providing. Unhappy Raleigh! Thine after-life is a melancholy blot upon the page of history! Immured in the lightless, airless limits of a prison, bending the last energies of a racked mind to a work of years—the History of the World—we feel that the sordid and pedantic James, the first of England and the sixth of Scotland, was but ill-calculated to appreciate such energies as thine. The wonder is, however, less that the king should behave thus unkindly, than that he allowed Raleigh to live so long, when we consider that the monarch was a decided opponent to the Indian weed. His "Columbus" presents a melancholy picture of the resorts, tricks, and devices to which even a Royal author can be driven, when he is compelled to substantiate false or frivolous assertions. The comparison of the Evil One and his appendages, put into juxtaposition with the inclinations of a professed smoker, is one of those manifestly ill-natured absurdities which, were it not so evidently ridiculous would be deserving of the severest reprehension. But enough of King James and his obloquies—their influence has long since past away, and the continuation of succeeding ages has stamped tobacco a friend, instead of an enemy, to mankind. Part—we mean the British Methuselah, not the Doctor—was such a confirmed smoker that, it is said, he tanned even his skin by the absorption of tobacco-juice continually into his pores, and yet his longevity has become proverbial. Sir Isaac Newton, Halley, Dryden, Addison, Steele, Farquhar, Congreve, and a host of other persons equally illustrious we could mention, were all inveterate smokers. Byron, who has immortalised the subject of our article, as

"Sublime tobacco, that from east to west,
Cheers the tar's labour and the Turkman's rest,"

disdained not the relaxation of a cigar after the completion of his immortal cantos; and, if report be true, Moore composed the major portion of his exquisite "Irish Melodies" under the influence of the same. In short, an article might be written to the extent of a page, were we to alone mention even the names of those in the world of literature, art, and science, who may be numbered amongst the votaries of tobacco. The Queen of Paphos can scarcely rival Nicotia in the number of those admirers who bow beneath the shrine of smoke, and who literally sacrifice to their idol by fire. The tobacco-plant, of which we prefix a sketch, is remarkable for the rapidity of its growth, and the extreme fecundity of the neighbouring soil where it is grown, which may be mainly attributable to the virtue of the plant itself predisposing the earth for vegetation. The nicotine oil may be extracted from the leaf, and is of a strong acrid and pungent quality, giving out a kind of empyreumatic property. The extract is chiefly used in medicine as a powerful emetic, but is now almost entirely superseded by the introduction of other drugs into the *Materia Medica*. The leaf is subjected to a drying process before it is used in the manufacture of cigars, and even then the cigar is not deemed to have



reached perfection until its form has been ripened by time. We have selected for our illustration the house of a cigarist, whose reputation has been most fully established in the metropolis, and the quality of whose goods may be depended upon. Mr. Wood, under whose surveillance this firm has been carried on for several years, is one of the most wealthy and influential tobacco merchants

in the trade, and his name may, therefore, be considered sufficient assurance that the selection has not been made invidiously.

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